

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
12 July 2001 (12.07.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/49317 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 39/00**

(21) International Application Number: **PCT/CA01/00005**

(22) International Filing Date: **5 January 2001 (05.01.2001)**

(25) Filing Language: **English**

(26) Publication Language: **English**

(30) Priority Data:
60/174,587 **5 January 2000 (05.01.2000) US**

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **AVEN-TIS PASTEUR LIMITED [CA/CA]; 1755 Steeles Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario M2R 3T4 (CA).**

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **EMTAGE, Peter [CA/CA]; 202-100 Parkway Forest Drive, Toronto, Ontario M2J 6L1 (CA). BARBER, Brian, H. [CA/CA]; 1428 Broadmoor Avenue, Mississauga, Ontario L5G 3T5**

(CA). SAMBHARA, Suryprakash [US/US]; 214 North Decatur Lane, Decatur, GA 30033 (US). SIA, Charles, Dwo, Yuan [CA/CA]; 133 Torresdale Avenue, Suite 901, Toronto, Ontario M2R 3T2 (CA).

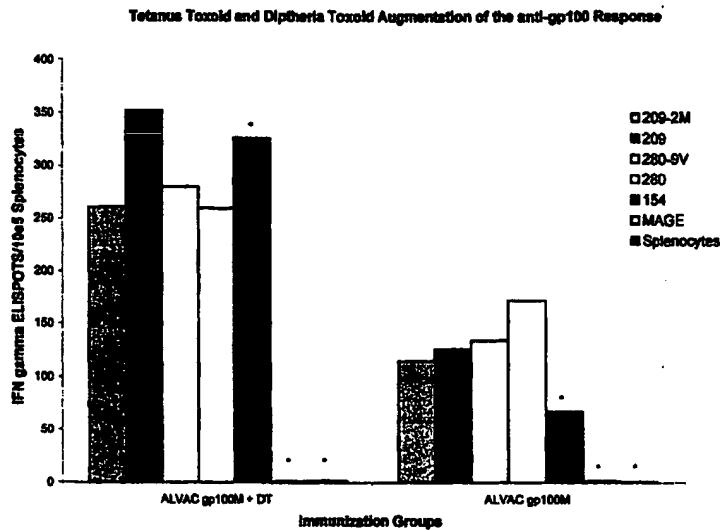
(74) Agent: **BERESKIN & PARR; 40 King Street West, Box 401, 40th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2 (CA).**

(81) Designated States (*national*): **AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.**

(84) Designated States (*regional*): **ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).**

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ENHANCED IMMUNE RESPONSE TO A VACCINE



*Represents the control peptides and splenocytes alone. The peptide 154 is a positive control, the peptide MAGE is a negative control peptide. Splenocytes are included to determine the level of background.

WO 01/49317 A2

(57) Abstract: A method of enhancing an immune response is disclosed. The method involves an initial priming of the animal with an inducing agent, subsequently followed by administration of an inducing agent-antigen mixture. The antigen may be a tumour associated antigen, pathogenic organism antigen, autoimmune antigen, immunogenic fragment thereof, or a nucleic acid coding therefor.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



Published:

- *Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

TITLE: Enhanced Immune Response to a Vaccine**FIELD OF INVENTION**

The present invention relates to methods and compositions for enhancing an immune response to an antigen in an animal.

5 BACKGROUND TO THE INVENTION

- Vaccines have been used with a high rate of efficiency to prevent infectious diseases caused by agents as diverse as bacteria, viruses and parasites (Plotkin, S.A. and Orenstein, W.A. (eds.), *Vaccine*, 3rd ed., W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, U.S.A. (1991)). Furthermore, a diverse array of 10 immunopotentiating and/or adjuvant-like materials have also been co-administered with said vaccines to augment the immune response (Gupta, R.K. and Siber, G.R., *Vaccine* 13:1263-1276 (1995); Cox, J.R. and Coulter, A.R., *Vaccine* 15:248-256 (1997); Plotkin, S.A. and Orenstein, W.A., *supra*, pp. 36-37).
- 15 A number of bacterial toxins have demonstrated immunopotentiating characteristics. These include Staphylococcal toxins (Koppler, J. et al., *Science* 224:811-817 (1989); White, J. et al., *Cell* 56:27-35 (1989); WO 98/26747; EP 839536; US Patent No. 5182109), *Escherichia coli* toxins (Dickinson B.L. and Clements, J.D., *Infect. Immun.* 63:1617-1623 (1995); 20 Douce, G. et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 92:1644-1648 (1995); US Patent No. 5182109) and Streptococcal, Mycoplasma arthritidal, and/or Yersinia enterocolitica toxins (WO 98/26747).

Additionally, the modification of an antigen in controlled manner has also been demonstrated to enhance immunogenicity for that antigen. For 25 example, carrier proteins (e.g. tetanus toxoid (TT), diphtheria toxoid (DT)), when coupled to T-independent antigens, haptens or weak immunogens enhance the immunogenicity of the antigens coupled to these proteins (Herrington, D.A. et al., *Nature* 328: 257-259 (1987); Nash, H. et al., *Fertil. Steril.* 34: 328-335 (1980); Robbins, J.B. and Schneerson, R., *J. Infect. Dis.* 30 161:821-832 (1990); Powell M.F. and Newman, M.J. (eds.), *Vaccine Designs – The Subunit and Adjuvant Approach*, Plenum Publishing Corp., New York, N.Y., U.S.A. (1995)).

Specifically, tetanus toxoid absorbed with aluminum salts and with preservatives such as Thimerosal (Trademark) given alone or in combination with other bacterial antigens has been used not only as a vaccine to prevent neonatal or adult tetanus (e.g. Plotkin, S.A. and Orenstein, W.A., *supra*, Chpt. 5 18, pp. 441-474), but also as an agent to induce enhanced humoral immune responses against bacterial toxins/subunits or viral antigens when coupled as a carrier molecule thereto and/or when co-administered with the vaccine/immunogen to which an immune response is desired (for example, Herrington, D.A. et al., *Nature* 328:257-259 (1987); Nash, H. et al., *Fertil. 10 Steril.* 34:328-335 (1980); Robbins, J.B. and Schneerson, R., *J. Infect. Dis.* 161:821-832 (1990); Kaistha, J. et al., *Indian J. Pathol. Microbiol.* 39: 287-292 (1996); Mukerjee, R. and Chaturvedi, U.V.C., *Clin. Exp. Immunol.* 102:496-500 (1995); US Patent Nos. 4673574, 4751064, 5877298).

In the context of *Haemophilus influenzae* related conjugate vaccines 15 utilizing tetanus toxoid or diphtheria toxoid as carrier, it has been observed that the humoral immune response to the conjugated immunogen is augmented after immune priming to the carrier (Granoff, D.M. et al., *J. Pediatr.* 121: 187-194 (1992); Granoff, D.M. et al., *Pediatr. Res.* 85: 694-697 (1993). In contrast, Ferro and Stimson (*Drug Design and Discovery* 14:179-20 195 (1996)) have demonstrated that animals presensitized with tetanus toxoid exhibit a significantly lower antibody response to a tetanus toxoid conjugated immunogen (gonadotrophin releasing hormone (GnRH) - tetanus toxoid) by comparison to immunization with conjugated immunogen in the absence of tetanus toxoid presensitization.

25 In view of the foregoing, there is a need in the art to develop improved vaccination protocols and compositions that enhance the immune response to an antigen in the vaccine.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present inventors have determined that the immune response to 30 an antigen can be greatly improved or enhanced if the animal is first primed with a foreign protein or inducing agent and then receives the antigen in admixture with the inducing agent. The immune response generated using

such a protocol is enhanced several fold over when the antigen alone, without the inducer, is used. The method is advantageous as it provides the enhancement or augmentation of the immune response to an antigen and/or improves a vaccination protocol by allowing one to use less antigen.

5 Accordingly, the present invention provides a method of enhancing an immune response to an antigen in an animal comprising (a) administering an inducing agent to the animal followed by (b) administering the inducing agent and the antigen to the animal.

In one embodiment of the invention, the inducing agent is a bacterial
10 toxoid such as tetanus toxoid or diphtheria toxoid.

The antigen can be any antigen. In one embodiment, the antigen is selected from the group consisting of tumour antigens, pathogenic organism antigens, autoimmune antigens, and immunogenic fragments thereof.

15 The antigen and/or inducing agent may be administered directly or the nucleic acid encoding the antigen and/or inducing agent may be employed. In the latter case, the nucleic acid coding for the antigen and/or inducing agent may be in a vector, plasmid, bacterial DNA or may be naked/free DNA or RNA.

In yet additional aspects of the invention, the antigen and inducing
20 agent may additionally be administered in conjunction with at least one member selected from the group consisting of cytokines, lymphokines, co-stimulatory molecules and nucleic acids coding therefor, and adjuvants.

25 The invention also includes vaccine compositions comprising an antigen and an inducing agent in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

Other features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description. It should be understood, however, that the detailed description and the specific examples while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention are given by way of
30 illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this detailed description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention will now be described in relation to the drawings in which:

5 Figure 1 (and SEQ.ID.NO.:1) shows the nucleic acid sequence of modified gp100.

Figure 2 (and SEQ.ID.NO.:2) shows the amino acid sequence of modified gp100.

Figure 3 (and SEQ.ID.NO.:3 and 4) shows the nucleic acid and amino acid sequence of a modified CEA.

10 Figure 4 is a bar graph demonstrating the effect of tetanus toxoid priming on the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC (2) vectors expressing a modified gp100 gene in A2Kb transgenic mice.

15 Figure 5 is a bar graph demonstrating the effect of tetanus toxoid priming on the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC (1) vectors expressing a modified gp100 gene in A2Kb transgenic mice.

Figure 6 is a bar graph demonstrating the effect of tetanus toxoid priming on the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC vectors expressing CEA in A2Kb transgenic mice.

20 Figure 7 is a bar graph demonstrating the effect of tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid priming on the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC vectors expressing a modified gp100 gene in A2Kb transgenic mice.

Figure 8 is a bar graph demonstrating the effect of tetanus toxoid priming on the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC vectors expressing native or modified gp100 in A2Kb transgenic mice.

25 **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

As hereinbefore mentioned, the present inventors have developed an improved vaccination protocol wherein the immune response to an antigen is enhanced if the animal is first primed with an inducing agent and then subsequently receives the antigen in admixture with the inducing agent.

30 Accordingly, the present invention provides a method of enhancing an immune response to antigen in an animal comprising (a) administering an effective amount of an inducing agent to the animal (sometimes referred to as

step (a) hereinafter) followed by (b) administering an effective amount of the inducing agent and the antigen (sometimes referred to as step (b) hereinafter) to the animal.

The term "animal" as used herein includes all members of the animal kingdom including mammals, preferably humans.

The term "enhancing an immune response" is defined as enhancing, improving or augmenting any response of the immune system, for example, of either a humoral or cell-mediated nature. The enhancement of an immune response can be assessed using assays known to those skilled in the art including, but not limited to, antibody assays (for example ELISA assays), antigen specific cytotoxicity assays and the production of cytokines (for example ELISPOT assays). Preferably, the method of the present invention enhances a cellular immune response, more preferably a cytotoxic T cell response.

The term "effective amount" of the inducing agent or the inducing agent and the antigen means an amount effective, at dosages and for periods of time necessary to enhance an immune response.

The term "inducing agent" as used herein means any agent that when used in the method of the invention can enhance, augment or improve an immune response to an antigen. For example, the inducing agent enhances an immune response as the immune response to the antigen is greater when the inducing agent is administered in both steps (a) and (b) of the method of the invention than when the antigen alone is administered. The method of the invention may also be used to improve an immune response as in the presence of an inducing agent one can generally administer a lower concentration of the antigen than when the inducing agent is not used and still generate a comparable or perhaps enhanced immune response.

The inducing agent can either be an agent to which the recipient animal is naïve or to which the recipient animal has been previously exposed. The inducing agent is preferably a foreign or non-self protein. Suitable proteins include, but are not limited to, natural peptides and proteins, (such as bovine serum albumin) including proteins derived from bacterial, viral,

parasitic, fungal, mycosal and mammalian sources. In one embodiment, the protein inducing agent is a bacterial toxoid derived from a bacterial toxin by their synthetic, chemical, physiochemical or genetic modification (e.g. Diphtheria toxoid, CRM197, Tetanus toxoid, Pertussis toxoid, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* recombinant exoprotein A and *Clostridium perfringens* exotoxins). Other proteins derived from bacteria may also be employed. The bacterial source may be, for example, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Meningococci*, *Pneumococci*, β -hemolytic streptococci, *E. coli*, *Vibrio*, *Salmonella*, *Staphylococci*, *Helicobacter* and *Campylobacter*. Viral sources include *influenza HA, NA or RSV capsid proteins.*

The term "antigen" as used herein means any agent to which one wishes to generate an immune response.

Antigens are usually proteins, but may belong to other classes of macromolecules, such as carbohydrates and the like. Protein antigens include both self antigens, such as tumor antigens and autoimmune antigens as well as non self antigens such as antigens derived from pathogenic organisms including viruses, bacteria, fungi, parasites, protozoans and yeast. Antigens may be obtained from natural sources or from host cells genetically engineered to produce the antigens.

The term "administering" is defined as any conventional route for administering an antigen to an animal for use in the vaccine field as is known to one skilled in the art. This may include, for example, administration via the parenteral (i.e. subcutaneous, intradermal, intramuscular, etc.) or mucosal surface route. The antigen and inducing agent may also be administered directly to a lymphatic site for example directly into a lymph node. The initial step of the method of the invention, i.e. step (a) administering the inducing agent to the animal, may be generally referred to as "pre-priming". The pre-priming of an animal can be achieved in a single dose or repeated at intervals. As such, the dose of the inducing agent may vary according to factors such as the health, age, weight and sex of the animal. The dosage regime may be adjusted to provide the optimum induction of the immune response. One

skilled in the art will appreciate that the dosage regime can be determined and/or optimized without undue experimentation.

- The inducing agent and the antigen may be administered in various forms and combinations. For example, when either the inducing agent and/or
- 5 the antigen is a protein they may be administered in the form of the protein or as a nucleic acid encoding the protein. Therefore, when either the inducing agent and/or the antigen is a protein the term "administering an inducing agent" or "administering an antigen" includes both the administration of the protein and the administration of the nucleic acid encoding the protein. When
- 10 both the inducing agent and antigen are proteins they may be each administered as proteins, each administered as nucleic acids encoding the protein or one may be administered as a protein and the other as a nucleic acid encoding the protein as well as various combinations or permutations of these.
- 15 In one example, the inducing agent may be administered as a protein in both step (a) and step (b) of the method of the invention while the antigen may be administered as a nucleic acid encoding the antigen. In a further example, the inducing agent may be administered as a nucleic acid in both step (a) and step (b) and the antigen can be administered as a protein. In
- 20 another example, the inducing agent may be administered as either a protein or a nucleic acid in step (a) and as a nucleic acid in step (b) and the antigen can be administered as a nucleic acid. In such an embodiment, the inducing agent and the antigen may be prepared as a chimeric nucleic acid sequence comprising a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an inducing agent linked to
- 25 a second nucleic acid sequence encoding the antigen. As such, upon administration of the chimeric nucleic acid sequence to the animal, the inducing agent and the antigen will be expressed *in vivo* as a recombinant fusion protein. In another example, the inducing agent may be administered as either a protein or a nucleic acid in step (a) and as a protein in step (b) and
- 30 the antigen may be administered as a protein. In such an embodiment, the inducing agent and antigen may be covalently linked for example they may be prepared as a recombinant fusion protein *in vitro* or they may be linked by

other means including chemical crosslinking as described e.g., in U.S. Patent No. 5,153,312. There are several hundred crosslinkers available that can conjugate two proteins. (See for example "Chemistry of Protein Conjugation and Crosslinking". 1991, Shans Wong, CRC Press, Ann Arbor). The 5 crosslinker is generally chosen based on the reactive functional groups available or inserted on the ligand. In addition, if there are no reactive groups a photoactivatable crosslinker can be used. In certain instances, it may be desirable to include a spacer between the ligand and the oil-body protein. Crosslinking agents known to the art include the homobifunctional agents: 10 glutaraldehyde, dimethyladipimidate and Bis(diazobenzidine) and the heterobifunctional agents: *m*-Maleimidobenzoyl-*N*-Hydroxysuccinimide and Sulfo-*m* Maleimidobenzoyl-*N*-Hydroxysuccinimide.

In one embodiment of the invention, tetanus toxoid is used as an inducing agent. In another embodiment of the invention, diphtheria toxoid is 15 used as an inducing agent. The tetanus toxoid or diphtheria toxoid may be prepared by methodologies well known to those skilled in the art and are commercially available from Aventis Pasteur, Smithkline Beecham, Lederle, Statens Inst. etc. Generally, the production of the toxoid can be divided into 5 stages, namely maintenance of the working seed, mass growth from the 20 working seed, harvest of the toxin, detoxification of the toxin, and purification of the toxoid (for example, as set out in US Patent No. 5877298, which is incorporated herein by reference). As contemplated by this invention, tetanus toxoid or diphtheria toxoid is used as such, or can be further adsorbed with aluminum salts and/or admixed with preservatives such as Thimerosal 25 (Trademark), or formulated in additional ways as will be known to those skilled in the art.

In embodiments of the invention employing antigens that are relatively small polypeptides, the antigen may be synthesized *in vitro* using techniques well known to the person skilled in the art. By "polypeptide" or "protein" is 30 meant any chain of amino acid, regardless of length or post-translational modification (e.g., glycosylation or phosphorylation). Both terms are used interchangeably in the present application. The terms "polypeptide" or

"protein" as used herein are also intended to include analogs of antigens containing one or more amino acid substitutions, insertions and/or deletions. Amino acid substitutions may be of a conserved or non-conserved nature. Conserved amino acid substitutions involve replacing one or more amino acids with amino acids of similar charge, size, and/or hydrophobicity characteristics. Non-conserved substitutions involve replacing one or more amino acids with one or more amino acids which possess dissimilar charge, size, and/or hydrophobicity characteristics. Amino acid insertions may consist of single amino acid residues or sequential amino acids. Deletions may consist of the removal of one or more amino acids or discrete portions of the polypeptide/protein. The deleted amino acids may or may not be contiguous.

As previously noted, one category of antigen is an antigen from a pathogenic organism. Various peptides have been found to be significant in stimulating a protective immune response in infectious diseases.

15 Immunotherapeutic antigens useful for the treatment of infectious diseases may be obtained from pathogenic bacteria, viruses, and eukaryotes. For example, hepatitis viral peptides, HIV envelope peptides and plasmodium yoeli circumsporozoite peptide are capable of protecting the host against challenge with the infectious agent.

20 In other preferred embodiments, the antigen is a tumor antigen. The term "tumor antigen" as used herein includes both tumor associated antigens (TAAs) and tumor specific antigens (TSAs). A tumor associated antigen means an antigen that is expressed on the surface of a tumor cell in higher amounts than is observed on normal cells or an antigen that is expressed on normal cells during fetal development. A tumor specific antigen is an antigen that is unique to tumor cells and is not expressed on normal cells. The term tumor antigen includes TAAs or TSAs that have been already identified and those that have yet to be identified and includes fragments, epitopes and any and all modifications to the tumor antigens.

25 30 The tumor associated antigen can be any tumor associated antigen including, but not limited to, gp100 (Kawakami et al., *J. Immunol.* 154:3961-3968 (1995); Cox et al., *Science*, 264:716-719 (1994)), MART - 1/Melan A

-10 -

- (Kawakami et al., *J. Exp. Med.*, 180:347-352 (1994); Castelli et al., *J. Exp. Med.*, 181:363-368 (1995)), gp75 (TRP-1) (Wang et al., *J. Exp. Med.*, 186:1131-1140 (1996)), and Tyrosinase (Wolfel et al., *Eur. J. Immunol.*, 24:759-764 (1994); Topalian et at., *J. Exp. Med.*, 183:1965-1971 (1996));
- 5 melanoma proteoglycan (Hellstrom et al., *J. Immunol.*, 130:1467-1472 (1983); Ross et al., *Arch. Biochem Biophys.*, 225:370-383 (1983)); tumor-specific, widely shared antigens, for example: antigens of MAGE family, for example, MAGE-1, 2,3,4,6, and 12 (Van der Bruggen et al., *Science*, 254:1643-1647 (1991)); Rogner et al., *Genomics*, 29:729-731 (1995)), antigens of BAGE
- 10 family (Boel et al., *Immunity*, 2:167-175 (1995)), antigens of GAGE family, for example, GAGE-1,2 (Van den Eynde et al., *J. Exp. Med.*, 182:689-698 (1995)), antigens of RAGE family, for example, RAGE-1 (Gaugler et at., *Immunogenetics*, 44:323-330 (1996)), N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase-V (Guilloux et at., *J. Exp. Med.*, 183:1173-1183 (1996)), and p15 (Robbins et al.,
- 15 *J. Immunol.* 154:5944-5950 (1995)); tumor specific mutated antigens; mutated β -catenin (Robbins et al., *J. Exp. Med.*, 183:1185-1192 (1996)), mutated MUM-1 (Coulie et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 92:7976-7980 (1995)), and mutated cyclin dependent kinases-4 (CDK4) (Wolfel et al., *Science*, 269:1281-1284 (1995)); mutated oncogene products: p21 ras (Fossum et at., *Int. J.*
- 20 *Cancer*, 56:40-45 (1994)), BCR-abl (Bocchia et al., *Blood*, 85:2680-2684 (1995)), p53 (Theobald et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 92:11993-11997 (1995)), and p185 HER2/neu (Fisk et al., *J. Exp. Med.*, 181:2109-2117 (1995)); Peoples et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, USA, 92:432-436 (1995)); mutated epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) (Fujimoto et al., *Eur. J.*
- 25 *Gynecol. Oncol.*, 16:40-47 (1995)); Harris et al., *Breast Cancer Res. Treat.*, 29:1-2 (1994)); carcinoembryonic antigens (CEA) (Kwong et al., *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.*, 85:982-990 (1995)); carcinoma associated mutated mucins, for example, MUC-1 gene products (Jerome et al., *J. Immunol.*, 151:1654-1662 (1993), Ioannides et al., *J. Immunol.*, 151:3693-3703 (1993), Takahashi et al.,
- 30 *J. Immunol.*, 153:2102-2109 (1994)); EBNA gene products of EBV, for example, EBNA-1 gene product (Rickinson et al., *Cancer Surveys*, 13:53-80 (1992)); E7, E6 proteins of human papillomavirus (Ressing et al., *J. Immunol.*,

154:5934-5943 (1995)); prostate specific antigens (PSA) (Xue et al., *The Prostate*, 30:73-78 (1997)); prostate specific membrane antigen (PSMA) (Israeli, et al., *Cancer Res.*, 54:1807-1811 (1994)); PCTA-1 (Sue et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 93:7252-7257 (1996)); idotypic epitopes or antigens, for 5 example, immunoglobulin idotypes or T cell receptor idotypes, (Chen et al., *J. Immunol.*, 153:4775-4787 (1994); Syrengelas et al., *Nat. Med.*, 2:1038-1040 (1996)); KSA (US Patent # 5348887); NY-ESO-1 (WO 98/14464).

Also included are modified tumor antigens and/or epitope/peptides derived therefrom (both unmodified and modified). Examples include, but are 10 not limited to, modified and unmodified epitope/peptides derived from gp100 (WO 98/02598; WO 95/29193; WO 97/34613; WO 98/33810; CEA (WO 99/19478; S. Zaremba et al. (1997) *Cancer Research* 57:4570-7; K.T. Tsang et al. (1995) *J. Int. Cancer Inst.* 87:982-90); MART-1 (WO 98/58951, WO 98/02538; D. Valmeri et al. (2000) *J. Immunol.* 164:1125-31); p53 (M. Eura et 15 al. (2000) *Clinical Cancer Research* 6:979-86); TRP-1 and TRP-2 (WO 97/29195); tyrosinase (WO 96/21734; WO 97/11669; WO 97/34613; WO 98/33810; WO 95/23234; WO 97/26535); KSA (WO 97/15597); PSA (WO 96/40754); NY-ESO 1 (WO 99/18206); HER2/neu (US Patent #5869445); MAGE family related (L. Heidecker et al. (2000) *J. Immunol.* 164:6041-5; WO 20 95/04542; WO 95/25530; WO 95/25739; WO 96/26214; WO 97/31017; WO 98/10780).

In a specific embodiment, the tumor-associated antigen is gp100, a modified gp100 or a fragment thereof. In one embodiment, the antigen is native gp100, the sequence of which is known in the art or a modified gp100 25 having a nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 1 and SEQ.ID.NO.:1 or an amino acid sequence shown in Figure 2 or SEQ.ID.NO.:2. The modified gp100 antigen contains two mutations over the native gp100, at position 210 the threonine was replaced by methionine and at position 288 the alanine was replaced by valene. The modified gp100 is more fully described in U.S. 30 application serial no. 09/693,755, filed on October 20, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference.

-12 -

In another specific embodiment, the tumor-associated antigen is carcinoembryonic antigen CEA, a modified CEA or a fragment thereof. The sequence of native CEA is known in the art. The sequence of a modified CEA is shown in Figure 3 or SEQ.ID.NO.:3 and SEQ.ID.NO.:4.

5 As noted above, the invention also encompasses administering nucleic acids coding for the antigen and/or the inducing agent. Accordingly, in one embodiment the antigen is administered as a nucleic acid sequence encoding a native gp100 protein or encoding a modified gp100 protein having the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 2 or SEQ.ID.NO.: 2. The nucleic acid
10 sequence may preferably have the sequence shown in Figure 1 or SEQ.ID.NO.: 1. In another embodiment, the antigen is administered as a nucleic acid sequence encoding a native CEA antigen or a modified CEA antigen having the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 3 or SEQ.ID.NO.: 4. The nucleic acid sequence may preferably have the sequence shown in
15 Figure 3 or SEQ.ID.NO.: 3. In one embodiment, the nucleic acid may be administered as free or naked DNA or RNA. In a preferred embodiment, the nucleic acid sequence is contained in a vector or plasmid. In one embodiment, the vectors of the invention may be viral such as poxvirus, adenovirus or alphavirus. Preferably the viral vector is incapable of
20 integration in recipient animal cells. The elements for expression from said vector may include a promoter suitable for expression in recipient animal cells.

An example of an adenovirus vector, as well as a method for constructing an adenovirus vector capable of expressing an immunogen is
25 described in U.S. Patent No. 4,920,209 (incorporated herein by reference). Poxvirus vectors that can be used include, for example, vaccinia and canary pox virus (as described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5364773, 4603112, 5762938, 5378457, 5494807, 5505941, 5756103, 5833975 and 5990091-all of which are herein incorporated by reference). Poxvirus vectors capable of
30 expressing a nucleic acid of the invention can be obtained by homologous recombination as is known to one skilled in the art so that the polynucleotide

of the invention is inserted in the viral genome under appropriate conditions for expression in mammalian cells (as described below).

- In one preferred aspect the poxvirus vector is ALVAC (1) or ALVAC (2) (both of which have been derived from canarypox virus). ALVAC (1) (or 5 ALVAC (2)) does not productively replicate in non-avian hosts, a characteristic thought to improve its safety profile. ALVAC (1) is an attenuated canarypox virus-based vector that was a plaque-cloned derivative of the licensed canarypox vaccine, Kanapox (Tartaglia et al., Virology 188:217-232 (1992); U.S. Patent Nos. 5505941, 5756103 and 5833975-all of which are 10 incorporated herein by reference). ALVAC (1) has some general properties which are the same as some general properties of Kanapox. ALVAC-based recombinant viruses expressing extrinsic antigens have also been demonstrated efficacious as vaccine vectors (Tartaglia et al., In AIDS Research Reviews (vol. 3) Koff W., Wong-Staol F. and Kenedy R.C. (eds.), 15 Marcel Dekker NY, pp. 361-378 (1993a); Tartaglia, J. et al., J. Virol. 67:2370-2375 (1993b)). For instance, mice immunized with an ALVAC (1) recombinant expressing the rabies virus glycoprotein were protected from lethal challenge with rabies virus (Tartaglia, J. et al., (1992) *supra*) demonstrating the potential for ALVAC (1) as a vaccine vector. ALVAC-based 20 recombinants have also proven efficacious in dogs challenged with canine distemper virus (Taylor, J. et al., Virology 187:321-328 (1992)) and rabies virus (Perkus, M.E. et al., In Combined Vaccines and Simultaneous Administration: Current Issues and Perspective, Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences (1994)), in cats challenged with feline leukemia virus 25 (Tartaglia, J. et al., (1993b) *supra*), and in horses challenged with equine influenza virus (Taylor, J. et al., In Proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Avian Influenza, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, pp. 331-335 (1993)).

- ALVAC (2) is a second-generation ALVAC vector in which vaccinia 30 transcription elements E3L and K3L have been inserted within the C6 locus (U.S. Patent No. 5990091, incorporated herein by reference). The E3L encodes a protein capable of specifically binding to dsRNA. The K3L ORF

has significant homology to E1F-2. Within ALVAC (2) the E3L gene is under the transcriptional control of its natural promoter, whereas K3L has been placed under the control of the early/late vaccine H6 promoter. The E3L and K3L genes act to inhibit PKR activity in cells infected with ALVAC (II), allowing
5 enhancement of the level and persistence of foreign gene expression.

Additional viral vector systems involve the use of naturally host-restricted poxviruses. Fowlpox virus (FPV) is the prototypic virus of the Avipox genus of the Poxvirus family. Replication of the avipox viruses is limited to avian species (Matthews, R.E.F., *Intervirology*, 17:42-44 (1982)) and there are
10 no reports in the literature of avipox virus causing a productive infection in any non-avian species including man. This host restriction provides an inherent safety barrier to transmission of the virus to other species and makes use of avipox virus based vectors in veterinary and human applications an attractive proposition.

15 FPV has been used advantageously as a vector expressing immunogens from poultry pathogens. The hemagglutinin protein of a virulent avian influenza virus was expressed in an FPV recombinant. After inoculation of the recombinant into chickens and turkeys, an immune response was induced which was protective against either a homologous or a heterologous
20 virulent influenza virus challenge (Taylor, J. et al., *Vaccine* 6: 504-508 (1988)). FPV recombinants expressing the surface glycoproteins of Newcastle Disease Virus have also been developed (Taylor, J. et al., *J. Virol.* 64:1441-1450 (1990); Edbauer, C. et al., *Virology* 179:901-904 (1990); U.S. Patent No. 5766599-incorporated herein by reference).

25 A highly attenuated strain of vaccinia, designated MVA, have also been used as a vector for poxvirus-based vaccines. Use of MVA is described in U.S. Patent No. 5,185,146.

Other attenuated poxvirus vectors have been prepared by genetic modifications of wild type strains of virus. The NYVAC vector, for example, is
30 derived by deletion of specific virulence and host-range genes from the Copenhagen strain of vaccinia (Tartaglia, J. et al. (1992), *supra*; U.S. Patent Nos. 5364773 and 5494807-incorporated herein by reference) and has

proven useful as a recombinant vector in eliciting a protective immune response against an expressed foreign antigen.

Recombinant poxviruses can be constructed in two steps known in the art and analogous to the methods for creating synthetic recombinants of 5 poxviruses such as the vaccinia virus and avipox virus (described in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,769,330; 4,722,848; 4,603,112; 5,110,587; and 5,174,993-all of which are incorporated herein by reference).

Bacterial DNA useful in embodiments of the invention have been disclosed in the art. These include, for example, Shigella, Salmonella, Vibrio 10 cholerae, Lactobacillus, Bacille Calmette Guérin (BCG), and Streptococcus.

Non-toxicogenic Vibrio cholerae mutant strains that are also useful as bacterial vectors in embodiments of this invention are described, for example, in US Patent No. 4,882,278 (disclosing a strain in which a substantial amount of the coding sequence of each of the two ctxA alleles has been deleted so 15 that no functional cholerae toxin is produced); WO 92/11354 (strain in which the irgA locus is inactivated by mutation; this mutation can be combined in a single strain with ctxA mutations); and WO 94/1533 (deletion mutant lacking functional ctxA and attRS1 DNA sequences). These strains can be genetically engineered to express heterologous antigens, as described in WO 20 94/19482. (All of the aforementioned issued patent/patent applications are incorporated herein by reference.) An effective immunogen dose of a Vibrio cholerae strain capable of expressing a polypeptide or polypeptide derivative encoded by a DNA molecule of the invention can contain, for example, about 1x10⁵ to about 1x10⁹, preferably about 1x10⁶ to about 1x10⁸ viable bacteria in 25 an appropriate volume for the selected route of administration. Preferred routes of administration include all mucosal routes; most preferably, these vectors are administered intranasally or orally.

Attenuated Salmonella typhimurium strains, genetically engineered for recombinant expression of heterologous antigens or not, and their use as oral 30 immunogens are described, for example, in WO 92/11361: Preferred routes of administration include all mucosal routes; most preferably, these vectors are administered intranasally or orally.

As will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art, other bacterial strains useful as vectors in embodiments of this invention include *Shigella flexneri*, *Streptococcus gordonii*, and *Bacille Calmette Guerin* (as described in WO 88/6626, WO 90/0594, WO 91/13157, WO 92/1796, and WO 92/21376; 5 all of which are incorporated herein by reference). In bacterial vector embodiments of this invention, a polynucleotide of the invention may be inserted into the bacterial genome, can remain in a free state, or be carried on a plasmid.

In another embodiment of the invention, plasmids and/or free/naked 10 DNA and RNA coding for the antigen can also be administered to an animal for immunogenic purposes (for example, US Patent No. 5589466; McDonnell and Askari, NEJM 334:42-45 (1996); Kowalczyk and Ertl, Cell Mol. Life Sci. 55:751-770 (1999)). Typically, this nucleic acid is a form that is unable to replicate in the target animal's cell and unable to integrate in said animal's 15 genome. The DNA/RNA molecule is also typically placed under the control of a promoter suitable for expression in the animal's cell. The promoter can function ubiquitously or tissue-specifically. Examples of non-tissue specific promoters include the early Cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter (described in U.S. Patent No. 4,168,062) and the Rous Sarcoma Virus promoter. The 20 desmin promoter is tissue-specific and drives expression in muscle cells. More generally, useful vectors have been described (i.e., WO 94/21797).

For administration of nucleic acids coding for antigen, said nucleic acids can encode a precursor or mature form of the antigen. When it encodes a precursor form, the precursor form can be homologous or heterologous. In 25 the latter case, a eucaryotic leader sequence can be used, such as the leader sequence of the tissue-type plasminogen factor (tPA).

Standard techniques of molecular biology for preparing and purifying nucleic acids can be used in the preparation of aspects of the invention. For use as a source of an antigen, a nucleic acid of the invention can be 30 formulated according to various methods known to those who are skilled in the art.

- First, a nucleic acid can be used in a naked/free form, free of any delivery vehicles (such as anionic liposomes, cationic lipids, microparticles, (e.g., gold microparticles), precipitating agents (e.g., calcium phosphate)) or any other transfection-facilitating agent. In this case the nucleic acid can be
- 5 simply diluted in a physiologically acceptable solution (such as sterile saline or sterile buffered saline) with or without a carrier. When present, the carrier preferably is isotonic, hypotonic, or weakly hypertonic, and has a relatively low ionic strength (such as provided by a sucrose solution (e.g., a solution containing 20% sucrose)).
- 10 Alternatively, a nucleic acid can be associated with agents that assist in cellular uptake. It can be, i.a., (i) complemented with a chemical agent that modifies the cellular permeability (such as bupivacaine; see, for example, WO 94/16737), (ii) encapsulated into liposomes, or (iii) associated with cationic lipids or silica, gold, or tungsten microparticles.
- 15 Cationic lipids are well known in the art and are commonly used for gene delivery. Such lipids include Lipofectin(also known as DOTMA (N-[1-(2,3-dioleyloxy)propyl]-N,N,N-trimethylammonium chloride), DOTAP (1,2-bis(oleyloxy)-3-(trimethylammonio) propane), DDAB (dimethyldioctadecyl-ammonium bromide), DOGS (dioctadecylamidologlycyl spermine) and
- 20 cholesterol derivatives such as DC-Chol (3 beta-(N-(N',N'-dimethyl aminomethane)-carbamoyl) cholesterol). A description of these cationic lipids can be found in EP 187,702, WO 90/11092, U.S. Patent No. 5,283,185, WO 91/15501, WO 95/26356, and U.S. Patent No. 5,527,928. Cationic lipids for gene delivery are preferably used in association with a neutral lipid such as
- 25 DOPE (dioleyl phosphatidylethanolamine), as, for example, described in WO 90/11092.

Other transfection-facilitating compounds can be added to a formulation containing cationic liposomes. A number of them are described in, for example, WO 93/18759, WO 93/19768, WO 94/25608, and WO 30 95/2397. They include, i.e., spermine derivatives useful for facilitating the transport of DNA through the nuclear membrane (see, for example, WO

93/18759) and membrane-permeabilizing compounds such as GALA, Gramicidine S, and cationic bile salts (see, for example, WO 93/19768).

Gold or tungsten microparticles can also be used for gene delivery (as described in WO 91/359 and WO 93/17706). In this case, the microparticle-
5 coated polynucleotides can be injected via intradermal or intraepidermal routes using a needleless injection device ("gene gun"), such as those described, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 4,945,050, U.S. Patent No. 5,015,580, and WO 94/24263.

Anionic and neutral liposomes are also well-known in the art (see, for
10 example, Liposomes: A Practical Approach, RPC New Ed, IRL Press (1990), for a detailed description of methods for making liposomes) and are useful for delivering a large range of products, including polynucleotides.

The amount of plasmid, naked/free DNA or RNA coding for an antigen to be administered to an animal generally depends on the strength of the
15 promoter used in the DNA construct, the immunogenicity of the expressed gene product, the condition of the animal intended for administration (i.e. the weight, age, and general health of the animal), the mode of administration, and the type of formulation. In general, a therapeutically or prophylactically effective dose from about 1 µg to about 1 mg, preferably, from about 10 µg to
20 about 800 µg and, more preferably, from about 25 µg to about 250 µg, can be administered to human adults. The administration can be achieved in a single dose, repeated at intervals, or incorporated into prime-boost protocols (as described below).

A nucleic acid encompassed by the invention can express one or
25 several antigens. In addition, it can also express a cytokine (for example, such as interleukin-2 (IL-2), interleukin-12 (IL-12), granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF)) and/or co-stimulatory molecules (for example, such as the B7 family of molecules) and/or other lymphokines that enhance the immune response. Thus, for example, a nucleic acid can include
30 an additional DNA sequence encoding, for example, at least one additional tumor associated antigen (and/or immunogenic fragment, homolog, mutant or derivative thereof) and a cytokine and/or lymphokine and/or co-stimulatory

molecule placed under the control of suitable elements required for expression in an animal cell. Alternatively, embodiments of the invention may include several nucleic acids, each being capable of expressing an immunogen of the invention.

- 5 In additional embodiments of the invention, the antigen *per se* (or several antigens) can also be mixed with a cytokine and/or lymphokine and/or co-stimulatory molecule, and/or nucleic acids coding therefor.

An animal may be immunized with an antigen (or a nucleic acid coding therefor) by any conventional route, as is known to one skilled in the art. This 10 may include, for example, immunization via a mucosal (e.g., ocular, intranasal, oral, gastric, pulmonary, intestinal, rectal, vaginal, or urinary tract) surface, via the parenteral (e.g., subcutaneous, intradermal, intramuscular, intravenous, or intraperitoneal) route or intranodally. Preferred routes depend upon the choice of the antigen and/or nucleic acid employed. The 15 administration can be achieved in a single dose or repeated at intervals. The appropriate dosage depends on various parameters understood by skilled artisans such as the immunogen itself, the route of administration and the condition of the animal to be vaccinated (weight, age and the like).

In one embodiment, the administration of the inducing agent and the 20 antigen (i.e. step (b) of the method) may occur anywhere from about 2 to 8 weeks, preferably 3 to 6 weeks following the initial pre-priming with the inducing agent (i.e. step (a) of the method). Most preferably, step (b) occurs from about 3 to 4 weeks after step (a).

The dose of the inducing agent is preferably from about 1 to about 50 25 limit of flocculation units (Lfu), more preferably 4-10 Lfu. The dose of the antigen is preferably from about 10 µg/mg bodyweight to about 1 µg/mg bodyweight, more preferably from about 50 µg/mg to about 500 µg/mg. When the antigen is administered as a nucleic acid sequence in a recombinant viral vector it is preferably in an amount from about 10^6 to about 10^9 pfu/ml, more 30 preferably 5×10^6 to about 5×10^8 pfu/ml.

In one embodiment of the invention, the antigen is a tumor antigen and the method can be used for the treatment of cancer. Accordingly, the present

invention provides a method of treating or preventing cancer in an animal comprising (a) administering an effective amount of inducing agent to the animal followed by (b) administering an effective amount of the inducing agent and a tumor antigen to the animal. Preferably, the tumor antigen is 5 administered as a nucleic acid sequence encoding the tumor antigen.

The immunization of an animal with the tumor antigen (or nucleic acid coding therefor) in a cancer treatment of the invention may be for either a prophylactic or therapeutic purpose. When provided prophylactically, the tumor antigen (or nucleic acid coding therefor) is provided in advance of any 10 evidence or in advance of any symptom due to cancer, or in patients rendered free of disease by conventional therapies but at significant risk for reoccurrence. The prophylactic administration of the tumor antigen (or nucleic acid coding therefor) serves to prevent or attenuate cancer in an animal. When provided therapeutically, the tumor antigen (or nucleic acid coding 15 therefor) is provided at (or after) the onset of the disease or at the onset of any symptom of the disease. The therapeutic administration of the tumor antigen (or nucleic acid coding therefor) serves to attenuate the disease.

A particularly preferred method of immunizing an animal with the antigen (or nucleic acid coding therefor) encompasses a prime-boost protocol. 20 Recent studies have indicated that this protocol (i.e. prime-boost) is quite effective. Typically, an initial administration of an antigen or immunogen (or nucleic acid coding therefor) followed by a boost utilizing the antigen or a fragment thereof (or alternatively, a nucleic acid coding therefor) will elicit an enhanced immune response relative to the response observed following 25 administration of either antigen (or nucleic acid coding therefor) or boosting agent. An example of a prime-boost methodology/protocol is described in WO 98/58956, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Accordingly, in another embodiment the present invention provides a method of enhancing an immune response to an antigen in an animal 30 comprising (a) administering an inducing agent to the animal followed by (b) administering a first dose of the inducing agent and the antigen to the animal followed by (c) administering a second dose of the inducing agent and the

antigen to the animal. Preferably, the second dose of the inducing agent and the antigen is administered anywhere from about 2 to about 8 weeks, preferably 3 to 6 weeks after the first dose administered in step (b).

Immunogenicity can be significantly improved if the antigens (or nucleic acids coding therefor) are, regardless of administration format (i.e. poxvirus, naked/free DNA, protein/peptide), co-immunized with adjuvants. Commonly, adjuvants are used as an 0.05 to 1.0 percent solution in phosphate - buffered saline. Adjuvants enhance the immunogenicity of an antigen but are not necessarily immunogenic themselves. Adjuvants may act by retaining the immunogen locally near the site of administration to produce a depot effect facilitating a slow, sustained release of antigen to cells of the immune system. Adjuvants can also attract cells of the immune system to an immunogen depot and stimulate such cells to elicit immune responses.

Adjuvants (including the use of immunostimulatory agents as adjuvants) have been used for many years to improve the host immune responses to, for example, vaccines. Intrinsic adjuvants, such as lipopolysaccharides, normally are the components of killed or attenuated bacteria used as vaccines. Extrinsic adjuvants are immunomodulators which are typically non-covalently linked to antigens and are formulated to enhance the host immune responses. Thus, adjuvants have been identified that enhance the immune response to antigens delivered parenterally. Some of these adjuvants are toxic, however, and can cause undesirable side-effects making them unsuitable for use in humans and many animals. Indeed, only aluminum hydroxide and aluminum phosphate (collectively commonly referred to as alum) are routinely used as adjuvants in human and veterinary vaccines. The efficacy of alum in increasing antibody responses to diphtheria and tetanus toxoids is well established. Notwithstanding, it does have limitations. For example, alum is ineffective for influenza vaccination and inconsistently elicits a cell mediated immune response with other immunogens. The antibodies elicited by alum-adjuvanted antigens are mainly of the IgG1 isotype in the mouse, which may not be optimal for protection by some vaccinal agents.

A wide range of extrinsic adjuvants can provoke potent immune responses to antigens. These include saponins complexed to membrane protein antigens (immune stimulating complexes), pluronic polymers with mineral oil, killed mycobacteria and mineral oil, Freund's complete adjuvant, bacterial products such as muramyl dipeptide (MDP) and lipopolysaccharide (LPS), as well as lipid A, and liposomes.

To efficiently induce humoral immune responses (HIR) and cell-mediated immunity (CMI), antigens are often emulsified in adjuvants. Many adjuvants are toxic, inducing granulomas, acute and chronic inflammations (Freund's complete adjuvant, FCA), cytolysis (saponins and pluronic polymers) and pyrogenicity, arthritis and anterior uveitis (LPS and MDP). Although FCA is an excellent adjuvant and widely used in research, it is not licensed for use in human or veterinary vaccines because of its toxicity.

Desirable characteristics of ideal adjuvants include:

- 15 1) lack of toxicity;
- 2) ability to stimulate a long-lasting immune response;
- 3) simplicity of manufacture and stability in long-term storage;
- 4) ability to elicit both CMI and HIR to antigens administered by various routes, if required;
- 20 5) synergy with other adjuvants;
- 6) capability of selectively interacting with populations of antigen presenting cells (APC);
- 7) ability to specifically elicit appropriate T_H1 or T_H2 cell-specific immune responses; and
- 25 8) ability to selectively increase appropriate antibody isotype levels (for example, IgA) against antigens/immunogens.

U.S. Patent No. 4,855,283 granted to Lockhoff et al on August 8, 1989, which is incorporated herein by reference thereto, teaches glycolipid analogues including N-glycosylamides, N-glycosylureas and N-glycosylcarbamates, each of which is substituted in the sugar residue by an amino acid, as immuno-modulators or adjuvants. Thus, Lockhoff et al. (Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 30:1611-1620 (1991)) reported that N-glycolipid analogs

displaying structural similarities to the naturally-occurring glycolipids, such as glycophospholipids and glycoglycerolipids, are capable of eliciting strong immune responses in both herpes simplex virus vaccine and pseudorabies virus vaccine. Some glycolipids have been synthesized (from long chain-
5 alkylamines and fatty acids that are linked directly with the sugars through the anomeric carbon atom) to mimic the functions of the naturally occurring lipid residues.

U.S. Patent No. 4,258,029 granted to Moloney and incorporated herein by reference thereto, teaches that octadecyl tyrosine hydrochloride (OTH)
10 functions as an adjuvant when complexed with tetanus toxoid and formalin inactivated type I, II and III poliomyelitis virus vaccine. Nixon-George et al. (J. Immunol. 14:4798-4802 (1990)) have also reported that octadecyl esters of aromatic amino acids complexed with a recombinant hepatitis B surface antigen enhanced the host immune responses against hepatitis B virus.

15 Adjuvant compounds may also be chosen from the polymers of acrylic or methacrylic acid and the copolymers of maleic anhydride and alkenyl derivative. Adjuvant compounds are the polymers of acrylic or methacrylic acid which are cross-linked, especially with polyalkenyl ethers of sugars or polyalcohols. These compounds are known by the term carbomer
20 (Phameuropa Vol. 8, No. 2, June 1996). Preferably, a solution of adjuvant according to the invention, especially of carbomer, is prepared in distilled water, preferably in the presence of sodium chloride, the solution obtained being at acidic pH. This stock solution is diluted by adding it to the desired quantity (for obtaining the desired final concentration), or a substantial part
25 thereof, of water charged with NaCl, preferably physiological saline (NaCL 9 g/l) all at once in several portions with concomitant or subsequent neutralization (pH 7.3 to 7.4), preferably with NaOH. This solution at physiological pH will be used as it is for mixing with the vaccine, which may be especially stored in freeze-dried, liquid or frozen form. The polymer
30 concentration in the final vaccine composition will be 0.01% to 2% w/v, more particularly 0.06 to 1% w/v, preferably 0.1 to 0.6% w/v.

Persons skilled in the art can also refer to U.S. Patent No. 2,909,462 (incorporated herein by reference) which describes such acrylic polymers cross-linked with a polyhydroxylated compound having at least 3 hydroxyl groups (preferably not more than 8), the hydrogen atoms of the at least three 5 hydroxyls being replaced by unsaturated aliphatic radicals having at least 2 carbon atoms. The preferred radicals are those containing from 2 to 4 carbon atoms (e.g. vinyls, allyls and other ethylenically unsaturated groups). The unsaturated radicals may themselves contain other substituents, such as methyl. The products sold under the name Carbopol (BF Goodrich, Ohio, 10 USA) are particularly appropriate. They are cross-linked with allyl sucrose or with allyl pentaerythritol. Among them, there may be mentioned Carbopol (for example, 974P, 934P and 971P). Among the copolymers of maleic anhydride and alkenyl derivative, the copolymers EMA (Monsanto; which are copolymers of maleic anhydride and ethylene, linear or cross-linked, (for 15 example cross-linked with divinyl ether)) are preferred. Reference may be made to J. Fields et al. (Nature, 1960, 186: 778-780) for a further description of these chemicals (incorporated (herein by reference)).

In one aspect of this invention, adjuvants useful in any of the embodiments of the invention described herein are as follows. Adjuvants for 20 parenteral immunization include aluminum compounds (such as aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, and aluminum hydroxy phosphate). The antigen can be precipitated with, or adsorbed onto, the aluminum compound according to standard protocols. Other adjuvants such as RIBI (ImmunoChem, Hamilton, MT) can also be used in parenteral administration.

25 Adjuvants for mucosal immunization include bacterial toxins (e.g., the cholera toxin (CT), the *E. coli* heat-labile toxin (LT), the *Clostridium difficile* toxin A and the pertussis toxin (PT), or combinations, subunits, toxoids, or mutants thereof). For example, a purified preparation of native cholera toxin subunit B (CTB) can be of use. Fragments, homologs, derivatives, and fusion 30 to any of these toxins are also suitable, provided that they retain adjuvant activity. Preferably, a mutant having reduced toxicity is used. Suitable mutants have been described (e.g., in WO 95/17211 (Arg-7-Lys CT mutant),

WO 96/6627 (Arg-192-Gly LT mutant), and WO 95/34323 (Arg-9-Lys and Glu-129-Gly PT mutant)). Additional LT mutants that can be used in the methods and compositions of the invention include, for example Ser-63-Lys, Ala-69-Gly, Glu-110-Asp, and Glu-112-Asp mutants. Other adjuvants (such as a 5 bacterial monophosphoryl lipid A (MPLA) of various sources (e.g., *E. coli*, *Salmonella minnesota*, *Salmonella typhimurium*, or *Shigella flexneri*, saponins, or polylactide glycolide (PLGA) microspheres) can also be used in mucosal administration.

Adjuvants useful for both mucosal and parenteral immunization include 10 polyphosphazene (for example, WO 95/2415), DC-chol (3 b-(N-(N',N'-dimethyl aminomethane)-carbamoyl) cholesterol (for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,283,185 and WO 96/14831) and QS-21 (for example, WO 88/9336).

Antigens and inducing agents (or nucleic acids coding therefor) encompassed by embodiments of the invention may be formulated into 15 pharmaceutical compositions in a biologically compatible form suitable for *in vivo* animal immunization. By "biologically compatible form suitable for *in vivo* animal immunization" is meant a form of the substance to be administered in which any toxic effects are outweighed by the therapeutic effects. The substances may be administered to animals in need thereof. Immunization 20 with a therapeutically active amount of the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention, or an "effective amount", are defined as an amount effective, at dosages and for periods of time necessary to achieve the desired result of enhancing an animal's immune response to the antigen. A therapeutically effective amount of a substance may vary according to factors 25 such as the disease state, age, sex, and weight of the animal, and the ability of immunogen to elicit a desired response in the animal. Dosage regima may be adjusted to provide the optimum therapeutic response. For example, several divided doses may be administered daily or the dose may be proportionally reduced as indicated by the exigencies of the immunization 30 context.

Additionally, the antigens and inducing agents (or nucleic acids therefor) and inducing agents may be in admixture with a suitable carrier,

diluent, or excipient such as sterile water, physiological saline, glucose or the like to form suitable pharmaceutical compositions. The compositions can also be lyophilized. The compositions may also contain auxiliary substances such as wetting or emulsifying agents, pH buffering agents, adjuvants, gelling or 5 viscosity enhancing additives, preservatives, flavoring agents, colors, and the like, depending upon the route of administration and the preparation desired.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a vaccine composition comprising an inducing agent and an antigen in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier. The inducing agent and/or the 10 antigen may be in the form of a protein or a nucleic acid encoding the protein. In one embodiment, the vaccine composition comprises a recombinant fusion protein comprising an inducing agent linked to an antigen. In another embodiment, the vaccine composition comprises a chimeric nucleic acid sequence comprising a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an inducing 15 agent linked to a second nucleic acid sequence encoding an antigen.

The present invention also includes a use of a vaccine composition of the present invention to enhance an immune response as well as a use of a vaccine composition of the present invention to prepare a medicament to enhance or immune response.

20 Animals may be immunized with the pharmaceutical compositions via a number of convenient routes, such as by injection (intradermal, intramuscular, subcutaneous, intravenous, intranodal etc.), or by oral administration, inhalation, transdermal application, or rectal administration, or any other route of immunization that enables the modulation of an animal's immune system. 25 Depending on the route of immunization, the pharmaceutical composition may be coated in a material to protect the compound from the action of enzymes, acids and other natural conditions which may inactivate the compound.

The compositions described herein can be prepared by *per se* known methods for the preparation of pharmaceutically acceptable compositions with 30 which animals can be immunized, such that an effective quantity of the antigen and inducing agent (or nucleic acid coding therefor) is combined in a mixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle (for example, diluent

- and/or carrier). Suitable vehicles are described, for example, in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (1985), Mack Publishing Company, Easton, Pa., USA). On this basis, the pharmaceutical compositions include, albeit not exclusively, solutions of the
- 5 substances in association with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents, and may be contained in buffered solutions with a suitable pH and/or be iso-osmotic with physiological fluids. In this regard, reference can be made to U.S. Patent No. 5,843,456. Reference can also be made to the textbook Vaccine Design: the Subunit and Adjuvant Approach,
- 10 10 Michael F.Powell and Mark J. Newman, eds. Plenum Press, New York, 1995.

The following non-limiting examples are illustrative of the present invention:

EXAMPLES

Example 1

- 15 **Enhancement of an Immune Response to Gp100 Antigens Using TT as an Inducing Agent**

Summary

The A2Kb transgenic mouse was used to assess the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC vectors expressing the native gp100 gene and/or the

20 modified gp100 gene (Figure 1 or SEQ.ID.NO.:1). HLA-A0201-restricted gp100-specific CTL (cytotoxic T cell) responses were assessed. The modified gp100 insert used to construct the ALVAC recombinants contained 2 point mutations, one at position 210 where threonine (T) of the native gp100 was replaced by methionine (M), and the other at position 288 where the native

25 alanine (A) was replaced by valine (V) (as described in US Patent Application 09/693,755, filed October 20, 2000 - incorporated herein by reference. See also Figure 2 and SEQ.ID.NO.: 2). Mice were primed with vaccine quality tetanus toxoid (TT) in saline. The animals were then immunized and boosted with ALVAC recombinants in combination with TT. In parallel, control studies

30 involving mice unprimed with TT, and boosted with ALVAC recombinants in the presence or absence of TT were also examined for their capability to generate gp100-specific CTL responses.

The analysis of the specificity of ALVAC recombinant-induced CTLs was focused on HLA-A0201-restricted human CTL epitopes gp100 (209-217) (i.e. amino acid sequence ITDQVPFSV, SEQ.ID.NO.:5) and gp100 (280-288) (i.e. amino acid sequence YLEPGPVTA, SEQ.ID.NO.:6) of the native gp100 molecule. For the transgenic mice that received the modified gp100 ALVAC recombinant vectors, effector responses directed against the mutated counterparts of these epitopes were examined (namely, gp100 (209M) (i.e. amino acid sequence IMDQVPFSV, SEQ.ID.NO.:7) and gp100 (280M) (i.e. amino acid sequence YLEPGPVT, SEQ.ID.NO.:8)).

10 **Materials and Methods**

Methods of the peptide synthesis, cell culture and cytotoxic T cell (CTL) assay were conducted via well documented and standard methodologies, and as such are well within the scope of those skilled in the art.

Vectors

15 Recombinant ALVAC vectors were constructed via methodologies and/or processes well known to those skilled in the art.

ALVAC (1) parent vector is described in US Patent Nos. 5505941, 5756103, 5833975-all of which are incorporated herein by reference. ALVAC (2) parent vector is described in US Patent No. 5990091, which is 20 incorporated herein by reference. Modified gp100 is described in US Patent Application No. 09/693,755, filed on October 20, 2000-which is incorporated herein by reference.

Synthesis of Peptides

Solid phase peptide syntheses were conducted on an ABI 430A 25 automated peptide synthesizer according to the manufacturer's standard protocols. The peptides were cleaved from the solid support by treatment with liquid hydrogen fluoride in a presence of thiocresole, anisole, and methyl sulfide. The crude products were extracted with trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) and precipitated with diethyl ether. All peptides were stored in lyophilized form at 30 -20°C.

The peptides synthesized were:

CLP 168-ITDQVPFSV (SEQ.ID.NO.:5)

-29 -

CLP 169-YLEPGPVTA (SEQ.ID.NO.:6)

CLP 572-IMDQVPFSV (SEQ.ID.NO.:7)

CLP 573-YLEPGPVTV (SEQ.ID.NO.:8)

CTL Assay

- 5 Mice of the B10 background (transgenic for the A2Kb chimeric gene) were purchased from the Scripps Clinic in California, USA. For tetanus toxoid (TT) priming, 20.0 µg of Aventis Pasteur's TT vaccine prepared in 100.0 µl of sterile phosphate buffered saline (PBS, pH 7.2) was injected into the quadriceps and gluteus muscles of each mouse. 4 weeks later, the animals
- 10 were boosted with an inoculum of 100.0 µl of PBS (pH 7.2) containing 1×10^7 plaque-forming units (p.f.u.) of ALVAC recombinant with/without 20.0 µg of TT using the same intramuscular route. Mice were again boosted with the respective inoculum 25 days later. 11 to 35 days after the final injection, spleenocytes of the experimental mice were prepared and cultured to enrich
- 15 for CTLs before being assayed for effector activity. *In vitro* re-stimulation of the in vivo generated CTLs was performed by co-culturing in a 25 cm² tissue culture flask 3×10^7 responder cells (i.e., splenocytes) with 1.3×10^7 irradiated autologous LPS (lipopolysaccharide)-blasts which had been pulsed with the appropriate peptide (100.0 µ per 10^8 cells). Cultures were kept in a 37°C, 20 humidified CO₂ incubator for 7 days before being tested for effector function in a standard 5 hr *in vitro* ⁵¹Cr-release CTL assay as follows. The responders were harvested from the day 7 bulk cultures and washed twice with RPMI-1640 medium (without bovine serum). The positive target was created by incubating $3-5 \times 10^6$ P815-A2Kb transfectant cells with 100.0 µ of the
- 25 specified peptide overnight in a 37°C CO₂ incubator. The target cells were then labeled with ⁵¹Cr at 250.0 µCi per 1×10^6 cells for 1 hr in the presence of 15.0 µ of the same test peptides and 15.0 µ of human β2-microglobulin. After washing twice with complete medium to remove excess free ⁵¹Cr, the targets were incubated at 2.5×10^3 with different numbers of the responders for 5 hr
- 30 in a 37°C CO₂ incubator. Supernatant aliquots were removed and counted for radioactivity.

Results

The results obtained for studies using ALVAC (2) and ALVAC (1) recombinants expressing modified gp100 are depicted in Figures 4 and 5, respectively. The results indicate that tetanus toxoid priming results in a
5 clearly enhanced immune response to the immunogen modified gp100 when the vector encoding for the immunogen is administered as a mixture with tetanus toxoid. This was not vector specific since said enhancement was observed with both vectors utilized.

Example 2

10 **Enhancement of an Immune Response to Gp100 and CEA Antigens Using TT or DT as an Inducing Agent**

Summary

The A2Kb transgenic mouse was used to assess the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC vectors expressing native gp100, modified gp100 or
15 the full length carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA). HLA-A0201-restricted gp100 or CEA specific reactive T cell responses were assessed using ELISPOT assays. The preparation of the gp100 ALVAC recombinants are described in Example 1. The full length CEA gene was incorporated into the ALVAC vector. ALVAC gp100 and ALVAC CEA immunized mice were primed with
20 vaccine quality diphtheria toxoid (DT) and tetanus toxoid (TT) in saline respectively. The animals were then immunized and boosted with ALVAC recombinants in combination with TT or DT. In parallel, control studies involving mice unprimed with TT, and boosted with ALVAC recombinants in the presence or absence of TT were also examined for their capability to
25 generate gp100 or CEA specific T cell responses.

The analysis of the specificity of ALVAC gp100 recombinant-induced T cell reactivity was focused on HLA-A0201-restricted human CTL epitopes gp100 (209-217) (i.e. amino acid sequence ITDQVPFSV, SEQ.ID.NO.:5), (210M; i.e. amino acids sequence IMDQVPFSV, SEQ.ID.NO.:7), gp100 (280-
30 288) (i.e. amino acid sequence YLEPGPVTA, SEQ.ID.NO.:9) and (288V; i.e. amino acid sequence YLEPGPVT, SEQ.ID.NO.:8) of the native and modified gp100 molecule. For the CEA analysis focus was given to the HLA-A0201

peptides CAP-1 (i.e. amino acid sequence YLSGANLNL, SEQ.ID.NO.:10) and its modified CAP-6D (i.e. amino acid sequence (YLSGADLNL, SEQ.ID.NO.:11) of the native CEA.

Materials and Methods

5 Methods of the peptide synthesis, cell culture and ELISPOT assay were conducted via well documented and standard methodologies, and as such are well within the scope of those skilled in the art.

Vectors

Recombinant ALVAC vectors were constructed via methodologies
10 and/or processes well known to those skilled in the art.

ALVAC (1) parent vector is described in US Patent Nos. 5505941, 5756103, 5833975-all of which are incorporated herein by reference. ALVAC (2) parent vector is described in US Patent No. 5990091, which is incorporated herein by reference. Modified gp100 is described in US Patent 15 Application No. 09/693,755, filed on October 20, 2000-which is incorporated herein by reference.

Synthesis of Peptides

Solid phase peptide syntheses were conducted on an ABI 430A automated peptide synthesizer according to the manufacturer's standard
20 protocols. The peptides were cleaved from the solid support by treatment with liquid hydrogen fluoride in a presence of thiocresole, anisole, and methyl sulfide. The crude products were extracted with trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) and precipitated with diethyl ether. All peptides were stored in lyophilized form at -20°C.

25 The peptides synthesized were:

CLP 168-ITDQVPFSV

CLP 169-YLEPGPVTA

CLP 572-IMDQVPFSV

CLP 573-YLEPGPVTV

30 CLP 165 -YLSGANLNL

CLP 1510 -YLSGADLNL

ELISPOT Assay

Mice of the B10 background (transgenic for the A2Kb chimeric gene) were purchased from the Scripps Clinic in California, USA. For tetanus toxoid (TT) and diphtheria toxoid priming, 20.0 µg of Pasteur Merieux Connaught's

5 TT and/or DT vaccine was prepared in 100.0 µl of sterile phosphate buffered saline separately (PBS, pH 7.2) and was injected into the quadriceps and gluteus muscles of each mouse. Three weeks later, the animals were boosted with an inoculum of 100.0 µl of PBS (pH 7.2) containing 2×10^7 plaque-forming units (p.f.u.) of either ALVAC recombinant with/without 20.0 µg

10 of TT or DT using the same intramuscular route. Mice were again boosted with the respective inoculum 21 days later. After the final injection, splenocytes of the experimental mice were prepared and cultured to enrich for either gp100 or CEA reactive T cells before being assayed for effector activity.

15 *In vitro* re-stimulation of the *in vivo* generated T cells was performed by culturing in a 25 cm² tissue culture flask 1×10^8 responder cells (i.e., splenocytes) with peptide (100.0 µg per 10^8 cells). Cultures were kept in a 37°C, humidified CO₂ incubator for 7 days before being tested for effector function in a standard IFN gamma ELISPOT assay as follows. The responders were harvested from the day 7 bulk cultures and washed twice

20 with AIM-V medium (without bovine serum). The target cells were generated by incubating 1×10^6 P815-A2Kb transfectant cells with 10ug of the specified peptide 3-5 hours in a 37°C CO₂ incubator. The target cells were washed twice with complete medium to remove excess free peptide and plated on an ELISPOT plate at 1×10^5 cells / well. Responding T cells were harvested

25 from the tissue culture flasks, washed with excess AIM-V medium and counted. The responding T cells were then co-cultured with the stimulators cells on the ELISPOT plate at 1×10^5 responders/well.

Results

The results obtained for studies utilizing ALVAC CEA and ALVAC

30 modified gp100 recombinants are shown in Figures 6 and 7, respectively. The results obtained for studies using native or modified gp100 are shown in Figure 8. The results indicate that diphtheria toxoid and tetanus toxoid

-33 -

priming results in a clearly enhanced immune response to the modified gp100, gp100 and CEA antigens when the vector encoding the antigen is administered as a mixture with tetanus toxoid or diphtheria toxoid. This was not vector specific since said enhancement was observed with both vectors
5 utilized.

Whereas the invention is susceptible to various modification and/or alternative forms, specific embodiments have been shown by way of example and are herein described in detail. However, it should be understood that it is not intended to limit the invention to the particular embodiments shown, but on
10 the contrary, the invention is to cover all modification, equivalents, and/or alternatives falling within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

All publications, patents and patent application referred to herein, are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety to the same extent as if each
15 individual publication, patent or patent application was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference in its entirety.

We claim:

1. A method of enhancing an immune response to an antigen in an animal comprising (a) administering an effective amount of an inducing agent to the animal followed by (b) administering an effective amount of the inducing agent and the antigen to the animal.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the inducing agent is a bacterial toxoid.
- 10 3. A method according to claim 2 wherein the bacterial toxoid is tetanus toxoid or diphtheria toxoid.
4. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the antigen is a protein.
- 15 5. A method according to claim 4 wherein the antigen is selected from the group consisting of tumor antigens, autoimmune antigens and an antigen isolated from a pathogenic organism.
- 20 6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the tumor antigen is selected from the group consisting of gp100, carcinoembryonic antigen, tyrosinase, TRP-1, TRP-2, MART-1/Melan A, MAGE family, BAGE family, GAGE family, RAGE family, KSA, NY ESO-1, MUC-1, MUC-2, p53, p185, HER2/neu, PSA and PSMA and modified forms thereof.
- 25 7. A method according to claim 5 wherein the tumor antigen is gp100 or carcinoembryonic antigen or a modified form thereof.
8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the antigen is GP100 or
- 30 30 modified gp100 having the sequence as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ.ID.NO.:2).

-35 -

9. A method according to claim 7 wherein the antigen is carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) or modified CEA having the sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ.ID.NO.:4).
- 5 10. A method according to any one of claims 1-9 wherein the antigen is administered as a nucleic acid sequence encoding the antigen.
11. A method according to claim 10 wherein the nucleic acid sequence is in a vector, plasmid or bacterial DNA.
- 10 12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the vector is a viral vector.
13. A method according to claim 12 wherein the viral vector is selected from adenovirus, alphavirus, and poxvirus.
- 15 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein the poxvirus is selected from the group consisting of vaccinia, fowlpox and avipox.
15. A method of claim 14 wherein the poxvirus is selected from the group comprising TROVAC, ALVAC, NYVAC, and MVA.
- 20 16. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 15 wherein step (b) occurs from about 3 weeks to about 6 weeks after step (a).
- 25 17. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 15 wherein step (b) occurs from about 3 weeks to about 4 weeks after step (a).
18. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 17 further comprising (c) administering a second dose of the inducing agent and the antigen.
- 30 19. A method according to claim 18 wherein step (c) occurs from about 3 weeks to about 6 weeks after step (b).

20. A method according to claim 18 wherein step (c) occurs from about 3 weeks to about 4 weeks after step (b).
- 5 21. A method according to any one of claims 1-20 wherein the antigen is administered in combination with at least one member selected from the group consisting of cytokines, lymphokines, co-stimulatory molecules, and nucleic acids coding therefor.
- 10 22. A method according to any one of claims 1-21 wherein the antigen is administered in combination with an adjuvant.
23. A method according to any one of claims 1-22 wherein the inducing agent is tetanus toxoid or diphtheria toxoid and the antigen is a tumor antigen.
- 15 24. A method according to claim 23 for the treatment of cancer.
25. A vaccine composition comprising an inducing agent and an antigen.
- 20 26. A use of a vaccine composition according to claim 25 to enhance an immune response.

FIGURE 1

ATGG ATCTGGTGT AAAAAGATGC CTTCTTCATT TGGCTGTGAT
AGGTGCTTG CTGGCTGTGG GGGCTACAAA AGTACCCAGA AACCAGGAAT GGCTTGGTGT
CTCAAGGCAA CTCAGAACCA AAGCCTGGAA CAGGCAGCTG TATCCAGAGT GGACAGAAC
CCAGAGACTT GACTGCTGGA GAGGTGGTCA AGTGTCCCTC AAGGTCAGTA ATGATGGGCC
TACACTGATT GGTGCAAATG CCTCCTTCTC TATTGCTTGT AACCTCCCTG GAAGCCAAA
GGTATTGCCA GATGGGCAGG TTATCTGGGT CAACAATACC ATCATCAATG GGAGCCAGGT
GTGGGGAGGA CAGCCAGTGT ATCCCCAGGA AACTGACGAT GCCTGCATCT TCCCTGATGG
TGGACCTTGC CCATCTGGCT CTTGGTCTCA GAAGAGAACG TTTGTTATG TCTGGAAGAC
CTGGGGCCAA TACTGGCAAG TTCTAGGGGG CCCAGTGTCT GGGCTGAGCA TTGGGACAGG
CAGGGCAATG CTGGCACAC ACACGATGGA AGTGAATGTC TACCATCGCC GGGGATCCCG
GAGCTATGTG CCTCTTGTCTC ATTCCAGCTC AGCCTTCACC ATTATGGACC AGGTGCCCTT
CTCCGTGAGC GTGTCCTCAGT TGCGGGCCCT GGATGGAGGG AAACAAGCACT TCCTGAGAAA
TCAGCCTCTG ACCTTTGCCCTCAGT TGACCCCCAGT GGCTATCTGG CTGAAGCTGA
CCTCTCCTAC ACCTGGGACT TTGGAGACAG TAGTGGAACCT GTGATCTCTC GGGCACTTGT
GGTCACTCAT ACTTACCTGG AGCCTGGCC AGTCACTGTT CAGGTGGTCC TGCAAGCTGC
CATTCCCTCTC ACCTCCTGTG GCTCCTCCCC AGTTCAGGAC ACCACAGATG GGCACAGGCC
AACTGCAGAG GCCCTTAACA CCACAGCTGG CCAAGTGCCT ACTACAGAAG TTGTGGGTAC
TACACCTGGT CAGGCAGCAA CTGCAGAGCC CTCTGGAACCT ACATCTGTGC AGGTGCCAAC
CACTGAAGTC ATAAGCACTG CACCTGTGCA GATGCCAACT GCAGAGAGCA CAGGTATGAC
ACCTGAGAAG GTGCCAGTTT CAGAGGTCAAT GGTTACCAACA CTGGCAGAGA TGTCAACTCC
AGAGGCTACA GGTATGACAC CTGCAGAGGT ATCAATTGTG GTGCTTCTG GAACCACAGC
TGCACAGGTA ACAACTACAG AGTGGGTGGA GACCACAGCT AGAGAGCTAC CTATCCCTGA
GCCTGAAGGT CCAGATGCCA GCTCAATCAT GTCTACGGAA AGTATTACAG GTTCCCTGGG
CCCCCTGCTG GATGGTACAG CCACCTTAAG GCTGGTGAAG AGACAAGTCC CCCTGGATTG
TGTTCCTGTAT CGATATGGTT CCTTTTCCGT CACCCCTGGAC ATTGTCCAGG GTATTGAAAG
TGCCGAGATC CTGCAGGCTG TGCCGTCCCG TGAGGGGGAT GCATTGAGC TGACTGTGTC
CTGCCAAGGC GGGCTGCCA AGGAAGCCTG CATGGAGATC TCATCGCCAG GGTGCCAGCC
CCCTGCCAG CGGCTGTGCC AGCCTGTGCT ACCCAGCCCA GCCTGCCAGC TGGTTCTGCA
CCAGATACTG AAGGGTGGCT CGGGGACATA CTGCCTCAAT GTGTCTCTGG CTGATACCAA
CAGCCTGGCA GTGGTCAGCA CCCAGCTTAT CATGCCCTGGT CAAGAAGCAG GCCTTGGGCA
GGTTCCGCTG ATCGTGGGCA TCTTGCTGGT GTTGATGGCT GTGGTCCCTG CATCTCTGAT
ATATAGGCGC AGACTTATGA AGCAAGACTT CTCCGTACCC CAGTTGCCAC ATAGCAGCAG
TCACTGGCTG CGTCTACCCC GCATCTTCTG CTCTTGTCCC ATTGGTGAGA ACAGCCCCCT
CCTCAGTGGG CAGCAGGTCT GA

2/11

FIGURE 2

Met Asp Leu Val Leu Lys Arg Cys Leu Leu His Leu Ala Val Ile Gly
 1 5 10 15
 Ala Leu Leu Ala Val Gly Ala Thr Lys Val Pro Arg Asn Gln Asp Trp
 20 25 30
 Leu Gly Val Ser Arg Gln Leu Arg Thr Lys Ala Trp Asn Arg Gln Leu
 35 40 45
 Tyr Pro Glu Trp Thr Glu Ala Gln Arg Leu Asp Cys Trp Arg Gly Gly
 50 55 60
 Gln Val Ser Leu Lys Val Ser Asn Asp Gly Pro Thr Leu Ile Gly Ala
 65 70 75 80
 Asn Ala Ser Phe Ser Ile Ala Leu Asn Phe Pro Gly Ser Gln Lys Val
 85 90 95
 Leu Pro Asp Gly Gln Val Ile Trp Val Asn Asn Thr Ile Ile Asn Gly
 100 105 110
 Ser Gln Val Trp Gly Gly Gln Pro Val Tyr Pro Gln Glu Thr Asp Asp
 115 120 125
 Ala Cys Ile Phe Pro Asp Gly Gly Pro Cys Pro Ser Gly Ser Trp Ser
 130 135 140
 Gln Lys Arg Ser Phe Val Tyr Val Trp Lys Thr Trp Gly Gln Tyr Trp
 145 150 155 160
 Gln Val Leu Gly Gly Pro Val Ser Gly Leu Ser Ile Gly Thr Gly Arg
 165 170 175
 Ala Met Leu Gly Thr His Thr Met Glu Val Thr Val Tyr His Arg Arg
 180 185 190
 Gly Ser Arg Ser Tyr Val Pro Leu Ala His Ser Ser Ser Ala Phe Thr
 195 200 205
 Ile Met Asp Gln Val Pro Phe Ser Val Ser Val Ser Gln Leu Arg Ala
 210 215 220
 Leu Asp Gly Gly Asn Lys His Phe Leu Arg Asn Gln Pro Leu Thr Phe
 225 230 235 240
 Ala Leu Gln Leu His Asp Pro Ser Gly Tyr Leu Ala Glu Ala Asp Leu
 245 250 255
 Ser Tyr Thr Trp Asp Phe Gly Asp Ser Ser Gly Thr Leu Ile Ser Arg
 260 265 270
 Ala Leu Val Val Thr His Thr Tyr Leu Glu Pro Gly Pro Val Thr Val
 275 280 285
 Gln Val Val Leu Gln Ala Ala Ile Pro Leu Thr Ser Cys Gly Ser Ser
 290 295 300
 Pro Val Pro Gly Thr Thr Asp Gly His Arg Pro Thr Ala Glu Ala Pro
 305 310 315 320
 Asn Thr Thr Ala Gly Gln Val Pro Thr Thr Glu Val Val Gly Thr Thr
 325 330 335
 Pro Gly Gln Ala Pro Thr Ala Glu Pro Ser Gly Thr Thr Ser Val Gln
 340 345 350
 Val Pro Thr Thr Glu Val Ile Ser Thr Ala Pro Val Gln Met Pro Thr
 355 360 365

3/11**FIGURE 2 (CONT'D)**

Ala Glu Ser Thr Gly Met Thr Pro Glu Lys Val Pro Val Ser Glu Val
370 375 380
Met Gly Thr Thr Leu Ala Glu Met Ser Thr Pro Glu Ala Thr Gly Met
385 390 395 400
Thr Pro Ala Glu Val Ser Ile Val Val Leu Ser Gly Thr Thr Ala Ala
405 410 415
Gln Val Thr Thr Glu Trp Val Glu Thr Thr Ala Arg Glu Leu Pro
420 425 430
Ile Pro Glu Pro Glu Gly Pro Asp Ala Ser Ser Ile Met Ser Thr Glu
435 440 445
Ser Ile Thr Gly Ser Leu Gly Pro Leu Leu Asp Gly Thr Ala Thr Leu
450 455 460
Arg Leu Val Lys Arg Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Cys Val Leu Tyr Arg Tyr
465 470 475 480
Gly Ser Phe Ser Val Thr Leu Asp Ile Val Gln Gly Ile Glu Ser Ala
485 490 495
Glu Ile Leu Gln Ala Val Pro Ser Gly Glu Gly Asp Ala Phe Glu Leu
500 505 510
Thr Val Ser Cys Gln Gly Leu Pro Lys Glu Ala Cys Met Glu Ile
515 520 525
Ser Ser Pro Gly Cys Gln Pro Pro Ala Gln Arg Leu Cys Gln Pro Val
530 535 540
Leu Pro Ser Pro Ala Cys Gln Leu Val Leu His Gln Ile Leu Lys Gly
545 550 555 560
Gly Ser Gly Thr Tyr Cys Leu Asn Val Ser Leu Ala Asp Thr Asn Ser
565 570 575
Leu Ala Val Val Ser Thr Gln Leu Ile Met Pro Gly Gln Glu Ala Gly
580 585 590
Leu Gly Gln Val Pro Leu Ile Val Gly Ile Leu Leu Val Leu Met Ala
595 600 605
Val Val Leu Ala Ser Leu Ile Tyr Arg Arg Arg Leu Met Lys Gln Asp
610 615 620
Phe Ser Val Pro Gln Leu Pro His Ser Ser His Trp Leu Arg Leu
625 630 635 640
Pro Arg Ile Phe Cys Ser Cys Pro Ile Gly Glu Asn Ser Pro Leu Leu
645 650 655
Ser Gly Gln Gln Val
660

4/11

FIGURE 3

ATGGAGTCTCCCTCGGCCCCCTCCCCACAGATGGTGCATCCCCTGGCAGAGGCTCTGCTC
 1 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 60
 TACCTCAGAGGGAGCCGGGGAGGGGTGCTACCACTAGGGGACCGTCTCCGAGGACGAG

 a M E S P S A P P H R W C I P W Q R L L L -

 ACAGCCTCACTTCTAACCTCTGGAACCCGCCACCCTGCAAGCTCACTATTGAATCC
 61 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 120
 TGTCGGAGTGAAGATGGAAGACCTGGGGGGGGTGACGGTTGAGTGATAACTTAGG

 a T A S L L T F W N P P T T A K L T I E S -

 ACGCCGTTCAATGTCGAGAGGGAAAGGAGGTGCTTCACTTGCCACAATCTGCCAG
 121 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 180
 TGCGGCAAGTTACAGCGCTCCCTCCACAGAACAGATGAACAGGTGTTAGACGGGTC

 a T P F N V A E G K E V L L L V H N L P Q -

 CATCTTTGGCTACAGCTGGTACAAAGGTGAAAGAGTGGATGGCAACCGTCAAATTATA
 181 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 240
 GTAGAAAACCGATGTCGACCATGTTCCACTTCTCACCTACCGTGGCAGTTAATAT

 a H L F G Y S W Y K G E R V D G N R Q I I -

 GGATATGTAATAGGAACCAACAAGCTACCCCAGGGCCCGCATACAGTGGTCGAGAGATA
 241 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 300
 CCTATACATTATCCTTGAGTTGTTGATGGGTCCGGCGTATGTCACCAGCTCTAT

 a G Y V I G T Q Q A T P G P A Y S G R E I -

 ATATAACCCCAATGCATCCCTGCTGATCCAGAACATCATCCAGAACATGACACAGGATTCTAC
 301 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 360
 TATATGGGTTACGTAGGGACGACTAGGTCTGTAGTAGGTCTACTGTCCTAAAGATG

 a I Y P N A S L L I Q N I I Q N D T G F Y -

 ACCCTACACGTCAAAAGTCAGATCTGTGAATGAAAGAACACTGGCCAGTCCGGTA
 361 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 420
 TGGGATGTGCAGTATTCAGTCTAGAACACTTACTTCTCGTTGACCGTCAAGGCCAT

 a T L H V I K S D L V N E E A T G Q F R V -

 TACCCGGAGCTGCCAACGCCCTCCATCTCCAGCAACAACTCCAAACCCGTGGAGGACAAG
 421 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 480
 ATGGGCCTCGACGGGTTGGGAGGTAGAGGTCTGTTGAGGTTGGCACCTCCTGTT

 a Y P E L P K P S I S S N N S K P V E D K -

 GATGCTGTGGCCTTCACCTGTGAACCTGAGACTCAGGACGCAACCTACCTGTGGTGGTA
 481 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 540
 CTACGACACCGGAAGTGGACACTTGGACTCTGAGTCCTGCGTTGGATGGACACCACCAT

 a D A V A F T C E P E T Q D A T Y L W W V -

 AACAAATCAGAGCCTCCCGTCACTGAGACTCAGGACGCAACCTACCTGTGGTGGTA
 541 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 600
 TTGTTAGTCGGAGGGCAGTCAGGTCCGACGTCGACAGGTTACCGTTGTCCTGGAG

 a N N Q S L P V S P R L Q L S N G N R T L -

 ACTCTATTCAATGTCACAAGAAATGACACAGCAAGCTACAAATGTGAAACCCAGAACCCA
 601 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 660
 TGAGATAAGTTACAGTGTCTTACTGTGTCGTTGATGTTAACACTTTGGTCTTGGGT

 a T L F N V T R N D T A S Y K C E T Q N P -

 GTGAGTGCCAGGCGCACTGATTCACTGTCATCCTGAATGTCTCTATGGCCGGATGCCCC
 661 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 720
 CACTCACGGTCCGCGTCACTAAGTCAGTAGGACTTACAGGAGATAACCGGGCTACGGGG

 a V S A R R S D S V I L N V L Y G P D A P -

5/11

FIGURE 3 (CONT'D)

ACCATTTCCCTCTAAACACATCTTACAGATCAGGGAAAATCTGAACCTCTCCTGCCAC
 721 TGGTAAAGGGGAGATTGTGAGAATGTCAGTCCCCTTTAGACTTGGAGAGGACGGTG + 780
 a T I S P L N T S Y R S G E N L N L S C H -
 GCAGCCTCTAACCCACCTGCACAGTACTCTTGGTTGTCAATGGACTTCCAGCAATCC
 781 CGTCGGAGATTGGTGGACGTGTCACTGAGAACCAAACAGTTACCCCTGAAAGGTCGTTAGG + 840
 a A A S N P P A Q Y S W F V N G T F Q Q S -
 ACCCAAGAGCTTTATCCCCAACATCACTGTGAATAATAGTGGATCCTATACGTGCCAA
 841 TGGGTTCTCGAGAAATAGGGGTGTAGTGACACTTATTACACCTAGGATATGCACGGTT + 900
 a T Q E L F I P N I T V N N S G S Y T C Q -
 GCCCATAACTCAGACACTGGCCTCAATAGGACCACAGTCACGACGATCACAGTCTATGAG
 901 CGGGTATTGAGTCTGTGACCGGAGTTACCTGGTGTAGTGTCTAGTGTCACTGACGATACTC + 960
 a A H N S D T G L N R T T V T T I T V Y E -
 CCACCCAAACCCCTTCATCACCAAGCAACAACCTAACCCCCGGTGGAGGATGAGGATGCTGTA
 961 GGTGGGTTGGAAAGTAGTGGTCGTTGGTGGGGCACCTCTACTCCTACGACAT + 1020
 a P P K P F I T S N N S N P V E D E D A V -
 GCCTTAACCTGTGAACCTGAGATTCAAGAACACAAACCTACCTGTGGTGGTAAATAATCAG
 1021 CGGAATTGGACACTGGACTCTAACAGTCTGTGTTGGATGGACACCACCCATTATTAGTC + 1080
 a A L T C E P E I Q N T T Y L W W V N N Q -
 AGCCTCCCAGTCAGTCCCAGGCTGCAGCTGTCCAATGACAACAGGACCCCTACTCTACTC
 1081 TCGGAGGGCCAGTCAGGGTCCGACGTGACAGGTTACTGTTGTCCTGGAGTGAGATGAG + 1140
 a S L P V S P R L Q L S N D N R T L T L L -
 AGTGTACAAGGAATGATGTAGGACCCATGAGTGTGGAATCCAGAACGAAATTAGTGT
 1141 TCACAGTGTCCCTACTACATCCTGGGAACTCACACCTTAGGTCTGCTTAATTCAAA + 1200
 a S V T R N D V G P Y E C G I Q N E L S V -
 GACCACAGCGACCCAGTCATCCTGAATGTCCTCTATGGCCAGACGACCCACCATTTCC
 1201 CTGGTGTGCGCTGGTCAGTAGGACTTACAGGAGATAACGGGTCTGCTGGGTGGTAAAGG + 1260
 a D H S D P V I L N V L Y G P D D P T I S -
 CCCTCATACACCTATTACCGTCCAGGGGTGAACCTCAGCCTCTCTGCCATGCAGCCTCT
 1261 GGGAGTATGTGGATAATGGCAGGTCCCCACTTGGAGTCGGAGAGGACGGTACGTCGGAGA + 1320
 a P S Y T Y Y R P G V N L S L S C H A A S -
 AACCCACCTGCACAGTATTCTTGGCTGATTGATGGAAACATCCAGCAACACACACAAGAG
 1321 TTGGGTGGACGTGTCAAGAACCGACTAACCTTGTAGGTGTTGTGTGTTCTC + 1380
 a N P P A Q Y S W L I D G N I Q Q H T Q E -
 CTCTTTATCTCCAAACATCACTGAGAAGAACAGCGGACTCTATACCTGCCAGGCCAATAAC
 1381 GAGAAATAGAGGTTGTAGTGACTCTTGTGCGCTGAGATATGGACGGTCCGGTTATTG + 1440
 a L F I S N I T E K N S G L Y T C O A N N -

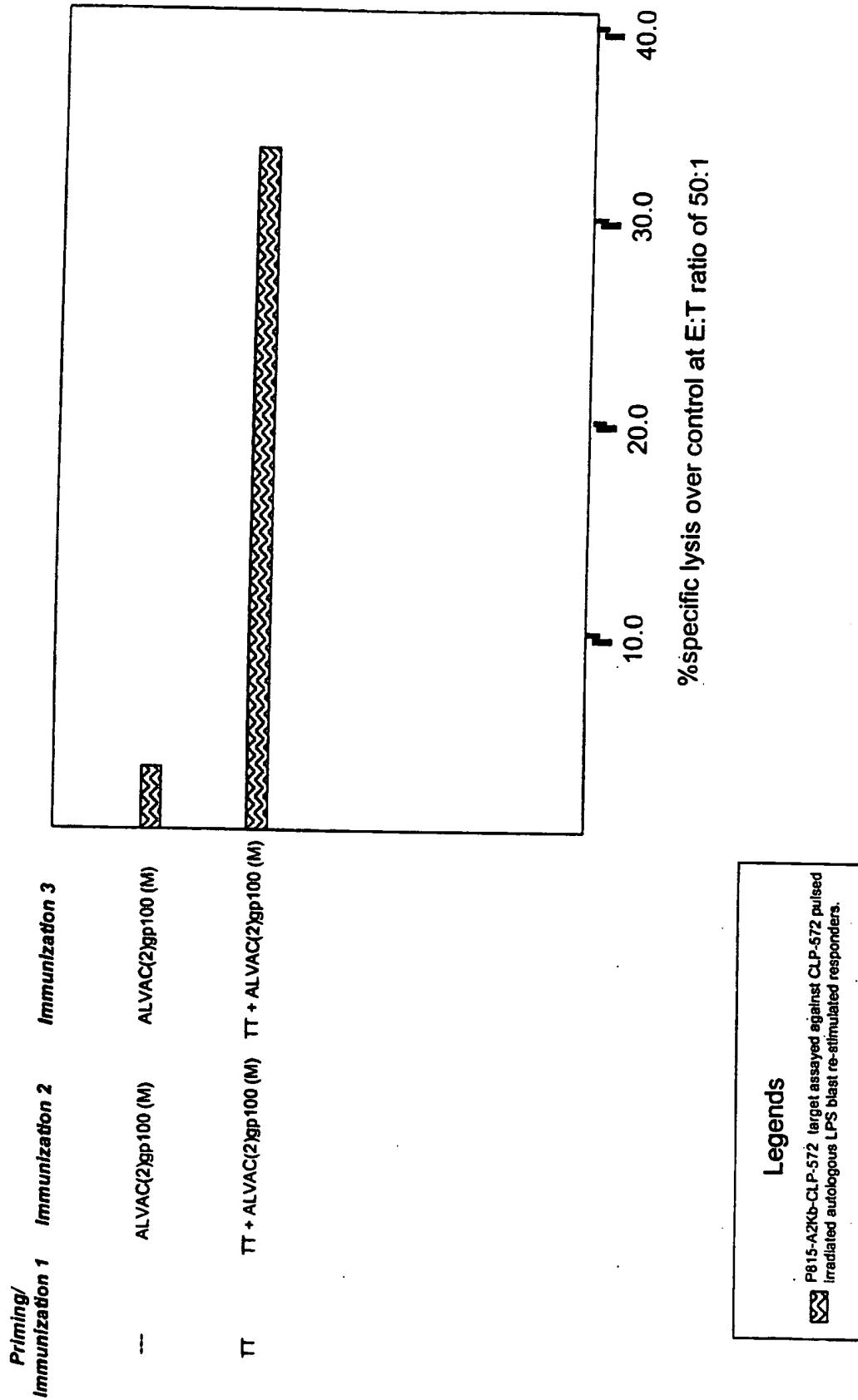
6/11

FIGURE 3 (CONT'D)

1441 TCAGCCAGTGGCCA CAGCAGGACTACAGTCAGACAATCACAGTCTCTGGAGCTGCC 1500
 AGTCGGTCACCGGTGTCGTCTGATGTCAGTTCTGTTAGTGTCAAGAGACGCCCTCGACGGG
 a S A S G H S R T T V K T I T V S A E L P -
 1501 AAGCCCTCCATCTCCAGCAACA ACTCCAAACCCGTGGAGGACAAGGATGCTGTGGCCTTC 1560
 TTCCGGAGGTAGAGGTGCTTGTTGAGGTTGGCACCTCCCTGTTCTACGACACCGGAAG
 a K P S I S S N N S K P V E D K D A V A F -
 1561 ACCTGTGAACCTGAGGCTCAGAACACAACCTACCTGTGGTGGTAAATGGTCAGAGCCTC 1620
 TGGACACTTGACTCCGAGTCTTGTTGGATGGACACCACCCATTACAGTCTCGGAG
 a T C E P E A Q N T T Y L W W V N G Q S L -
 1621 CCAGTCAGTCCCAGGCTGCAGCTGTCCAATGGCAACAGGACCTCACTCTATTCAATGTC 1680
 GGTCAGTCAGGGTCCGACGTCGACAGGTTACCGTTGCTGGAGTGGAGATAAGTTACAG
 a P V S P R L Q L S N G N R T L T L F N V -
 1681 ACAAGAAATGACGCAAGAGCCTATGTATGTTGAATCCAGAACTCAGTGAGTGCAAACCGC 1740
 TGTTCTTACTGCGTTCTCGGATAACATACACCTTAGGTCTTGAGTCACTCACGTTGGCG
 a T R N D A R A Y V C G I Q N S V S A N R -
 1741 AGTGACCCAGTCACCCCTGGATGTCCTCTATGGCCGGACACCCCCCATCATTCCCCCCC 1800
 TCACTGGGTCAAGTGGACCTACAGGAGATAACCCGGCTGTGGGGTAGTAAAGGGGGGT
 a S D P V T L D V L Y G P D T P I I S P P -
 1801 GACTCGTCTTACCTTTCGGAGCGGACCTCAACCTCTCCTGCCACTCGGCCCTTAACCCA 1860
 CTGAGCAGAATGAAAGCCCTGCCCTGGAGITGGAGAGGACGGTGAGCCGGAGATTGGGT
 a D S S Y L S G A D L N L S C H S A S N P -
 TCCCCCGAGTATTCTTGGCGTATCAATGGGATAACGCAGCAACACACACAAGTTCTCTTT
 1861 AGGGCGTCATAAGAACCGCATAGTTACCCCTATGGCGTCGGTGTGTTCAAGAGAAA 1920
 a S P Q Y S W R I N G I P Q Q H T Q V L F -
 1921 ATCGCCAAAATCACGCCAATAATAACGGGACCTATGCCCTGTTGTCTCTAACCTGGCT 1980
 TAGCGGTTTTAGTGCCTTATTATTGCCCTGGATAACGGACAAACAGAGATTGAACCGA
 a I A K I T P N N N G T Y A C F V S N L A -
 1981 ACTGGCCGCAATAATTCCATAGTCAGAGCATCACAGTCTCTGCATCTGGAACTTCTCCT 2040
 TGACCGCGTTATTAAAGGTATCAGTTCTCGTAGTGTCAAGAGACCTAGACCTTGAGAGGA
 a T G R N N S I V K S I T V S A S G T S P -
 2041 GGTCTCTCAGCTGGGGCCACTGTCGGCATCATGATTGGAGTGTGCTGGTGGGGTTGCTCTG 2100
 CCAGAGAGTCGACCCCGGTGACAGCCGTAGTACTAACCTCACGACCAACCCAACGAGAC
 a G L S A G A T V G I M I G V L V G V A L -
 2101 ~~TATTC~~
 TATATC
 a ←

7/11

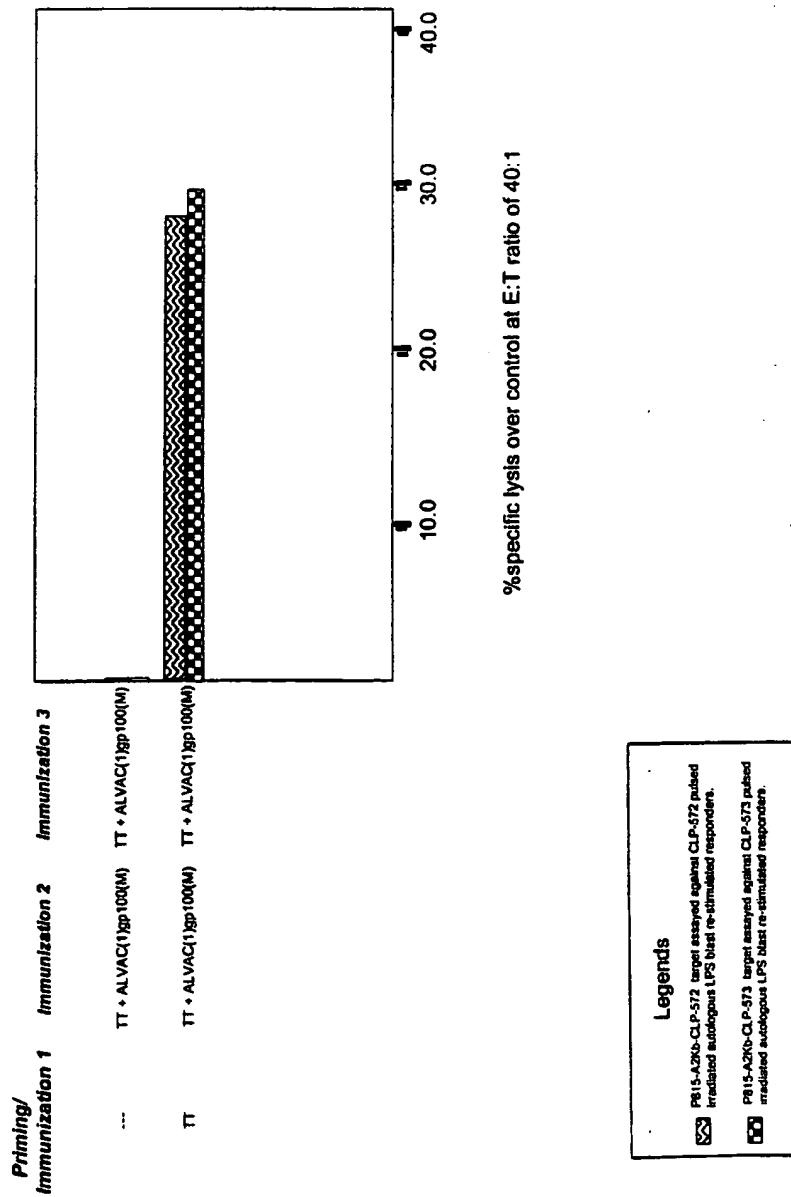
FIGURE 4
**Effect of tetanus toxoid (TT) co-immunization on the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC (2) vectors
 expressing a natural or modified gp100 gene in A2Kb transgenic mice**



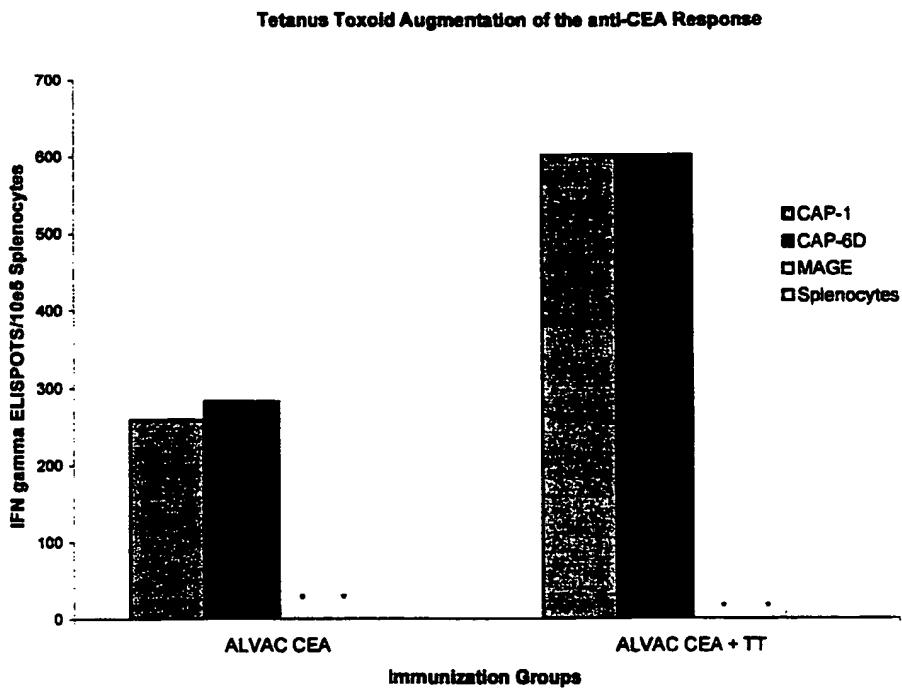
8/11

FIGURE 5

Effect of tetanus toxoid (TT) co-immunization on the immunogenicity of recombinant ALVAC (1') vectors expressing a natural or modified gp100 gene in A2Kb transgenic mice

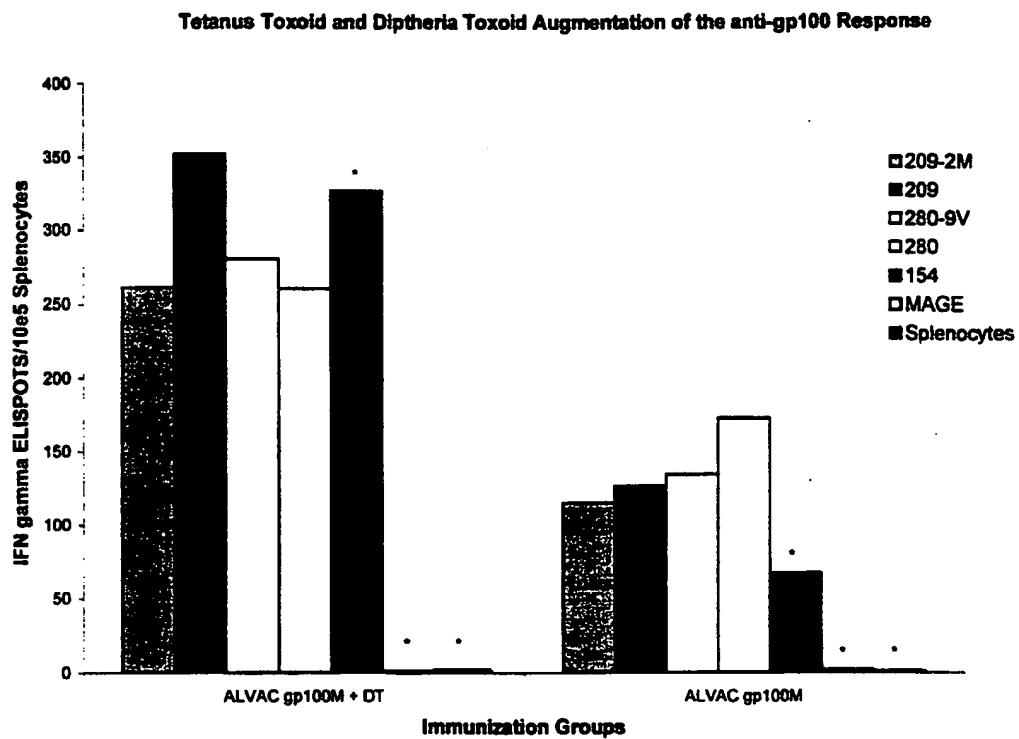


9/11

FIGURE 6

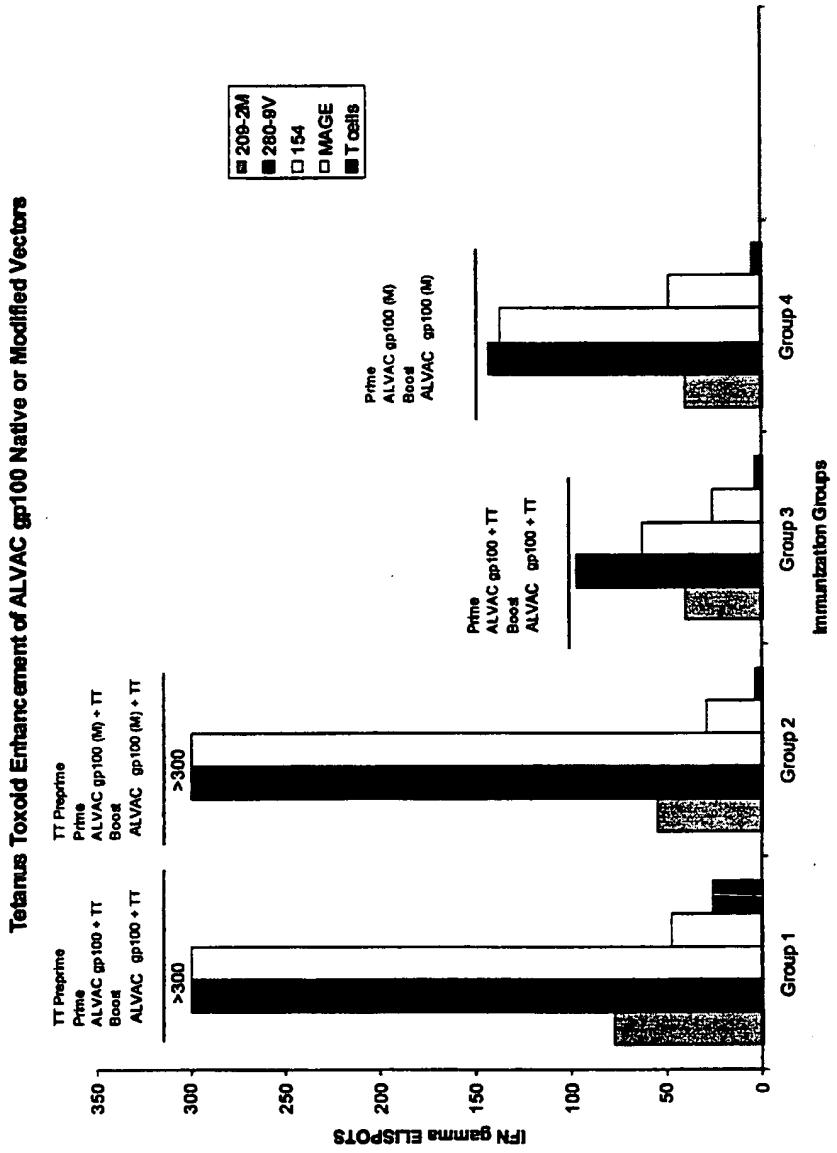
*Represents the control peptides and splenocytes alone. The peptide 154 is a positive control, the peptide MAGE is a negative control peptide. Splenocytes are included to determine the level of background.

10/11

FIGURE 7

*Represents the control peptides and splenocytes alone. The peptide 154 is a positive control, the peptide MAGE is a negative control peptide. Splenocytes are included to determine the level of background.

11/11

FIGURE 8

SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> Aventis Pasteur Limited
Barber, Brian H.
Emtage, Peter
Sambhara, Suryaprakash
Sia, Charles Dwo Yuan

<120> Enhanced Immune Response to a Vaccine

<130> 11014-18

<140>
<141>

<150> US 60/174,587

<151> 2000-01-05

<160> 11

<170> PatentIn Ver. 2.0

<210> 1
<211> 1986
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: modified gp 100

<400> 1
atggatctgg tgctaaaaag atgccttctt cattggctg tgataaggc tttgctggct 60
gtgggggcta caaaagtacc cagaaaccag gactggctt gttgtcaag gcaactcaga 120
accaaaggcct ggaacaggca gctgtatcca gagtggacag aagcccagag acttgactgc 180
tggagagggtg gtcaagtgtc cctcaaggc agtaatgtatggcctacact gattgggtca 240
aatgccttcct tctctattgc cttgaacttc cctggaaagcc aaaaggtatt gccagatgg 300
caggttatct gggtaacaaa taccatcatc aatgggagcc aggtgtgggg aggacagcca 360
gtgtatcccc agggaaactga cgatgcctgc atcttccctg atgggtggacc ttgcccatct 420
ggctcttgggt ctcagaagag aagctttgtt tatgtctggc agacctgggg ccaatactgg 480
caagttctag ggggcccagt gtctggctg agcattggga caggcaggc aatgctggc 540
acacacacgta tggaaagtgc tgtctaccat cgccggggat cccggagcta tgtgcctt 600
gctcattcca gctcagcctt caccattatg gaccaggtgc ctttctccgt gagcgtgtcc 660

cagttgcggg ccttggatgg agggaaacaag cacttcctga gaaatcagcc tctgacc 720
gccctccagc tccatgaccc cagtggctat ctggctgaag ctgacctctc ctacacctgg 780
gactttggag acagtagtgtt aaccctgatc tctcggcac ttgtggtcac tcataactac 840
ctggagcctg gcccagtcac tgttcaggtg gtcctgcagg ctgccattcc tctcacctcc 900
tgtggctcct ccccagttcc aggcaccaca gatgggcaca ggccaactgc agaggccc 960
aacaccacag ctggccaagt gcctactaca gaagttgtgg gtactacacc tggtcaggcg 1020
ccaactgcag agccctctgg aaccacatct gtgcaggtgc caaccactga agtcataa 1080
actgcacctg tgcaagatgcc aactgcagag agcacaggtt tgacacctga gaaggtgcca 1140
gtttcagagg tcatgggtac cacactggca gagatgtcaa ctccagaggc tacaggtatg 1200
acacactgcag aggtatcaat tgtggtgctt tctggAACCA cagctgcaca ggtaacaact 1260
acagagtggg tggagaccac agctagagag ctacctatcc ctgagcctga aggtccagat 1320
gccagctcaa tcatgtctac ggaaagtatt acaggttccc tggggccccct gctggatgg 1380
acagccaccc taaggctggt gaagagacaa gtccccctgg attgtttct gtatcgat 1440
ggttcctttt ccgtcaccct ggacattgtc cagggatttg aaagtgccga gatcctgcag 1500
gctgtccgt ccggtgaggg ggatgcattt gagctgactg tgcctgcca aggccggctg 1560
cccaaggaag cctgcatgga gatctcatcg ccaggggtgcc agccccctgc ccagcggctg 1620
tgccagcctg tgctacccag cccagcctgc cagctggttc tgcaccagat actgaagggt 1680
ggctcgaaaa catactgcct caatgtgtct ctggctgata ccaacagcct ggcagtggtc 1740
agcacccagc ttatcatgcc tggtaagaa gcaggccttg ggcaggttcc gctgatcgtg 1800
ggcatcttgc tggtgttgcat ggctgtggtc cttgcacatctc tgatatatag ggcagactt 1860
atgaagcaag acttctccgt accccagttt ccacatagca gcaactactg gctgcgtcta 1920
ccccgcacatct tctgctcttgc tcccattggt gagaacagcc ccctcctcag tggcagcag 1980
gtctga 1986

<210> 2
<211> 661
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: modified gp 100

3

<400> 2

Met Asp Leu Val Leu Lys Arg Cys Leu Leu His Leu Ala Val Ile Gly
1 5 10 15

Ala Leu Leu Ala Val Gly Ala Thr Lys Val Pro Arg Asn Gln Asp Trp
20 25 30

Leu Gly Val Ser Arg Gln Leu Arg Thr Lys Ala Trp Asn Arg Gln Leu
35 40 45

Tyr Pro Glu Trp Thr Glu Ala Gln Arg Leu Asp Cys Trp Arg Gly Gly
50 55 60

Gln Val Ser Leu Lys Val Ser Asn Asp Gly Pro Thr Leu Ile Gly Ala
65 70 75 80

Asn Ala Ser Phe Ser Ile Ala Leu Asn Phe Pro Gly Ser Gln Lys Val
85 90 95

Leu Pro Asp Gly Gln Val Ile Trp Val Asn Asn Thr Ile Ile Asn Gly
100 105 110

Ser Gln Val Trp Gly Gly Gln Pro Val Tyr Pro Gln Glu Thr Asp Asp
115 120 125

Ala Cys Ile Phe Pro Asp Gly Gly Pro Cys Pro Ser Gly Ser Trp Ser
130 135 140

Gln Lys Arg Ser Phe Val Tyr Val Trp Lys Thr Trp Gly Gln Tyr Trp
145 150 155 160

Gln Val Leu Gly Gly Pro Val Ser Gly Leu Ser Ile Gly Thr Gly Arg
165 170 175

Ala Met Leu Gly Thr His Thr Met Glu Val Thr Val Tyr His Arg Arg
180 185 190

Gly Ser Arg Ser Tyr Val Pro Leu Ala His Ser Ser Ser Ala Phe Thr
195 200 205

Ile Met Asp Gln Val Pro Phe Ser Val Ser Val Ser Gln Leu Arg Ala
210 215 220

Leu Asp Gly Gly Asn Lys His Phe Leu Arg Asn Gln Pro Leu Thr Phe
225 230 235 240

Ala Leu Gln Leu His Asp Pro Ser Gly Tyr Leu Ala Glu Ala Asp Leu
245 250 255

Ser Tyr Thr Trp Asp Phe Gly Asp Ser Ser Gly Thr Leu Ile Ser Arg
260 265 270

Ala Leu Val Val Thr His Thr Tyr Leu Glu Pro Gly Pro Val Thr Val

4

275

280

285

Gln Val Val Leu Gln Ala Ala Ile Pro Leu Thr Ser Cys Gly Ser Ser
 290 295 300

Pro Val Pro Gly Thr Thr Asp Gly His Arg Pro Thr Ala Glu Ala Pro
 305 310 315 320

Asn Thr Thr Ala Gly Gln Val Pro Thr Thr Glu Val Val Gly Thr Thr
 325 330 335

Pro Gly Gln Ala Pro Thr Ala Glu Pro Ser Gly Thr Thr Ser Val Gln
 340 345 350

Val Pro Thr Thr Glu Val Ile Ser Thr Ala Pro Val Gln Met Pro Thr
 355 360 365

Ala Glu Ser Thr Gly Met Thr Pro Glu Lys Val Pro Val Ser Glu Val
 370 375 380

Met Gly Thr Thr Leu Ala Glu Met Ser Thr Pro Glu Ala Thr Gly Met
 385 390 395 400

Thr Pro Ala Glu Val Ser Ile Val Val Leu Ser Gly Thr Thr Ala Ala
 405 410 415

Gln Val Thr Thr Glu Trp Val Glu Thr Thr Ala Arg Glu Leu Pro
 420 425 430

Ile Pro Glu Pro Glu Gly Pro Asp Ala Ser Ser Ile Met Ser Thr Glu
 435 440 445

Ser Ile Thr Gly Ser Leu Gly Pro Leu Leu Asp Gly Thr Ala Thr Leu
 450 455 460

Arg Leu Val Lys Arg Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Cys Val Leu Tyr Arg Tyr
 465 470 475 480

Gly Ser Phe Ser Val Thr Leu Asp Ile Val Gln Gly Ile Glu Ser Ala
 485 490 495

Glu Ile Leu Gln Ala Val Pro Ser Gly Glu Gly Asp Ala Phe Glu Leu
 500 505 510

Thr Val Ser Cys Gln Gly Leu Pro Lys Glu Ala Cys Met Glu Ile
 515 520 525

Ser Ser Pro Gly Cys Gln Pro Pro Ala Gln Arg Leu Cys Gln Pro Val
 530 535 540

Leu Pro Ser Pro Ala Cys Gln Leu Val Leu His Gln Ile Leu Lys Gly
 545 550 555 560

Gly Ser Gly Thr Tyr Cys Leu Asn Val Ser Leu Ala Asp Thr Asn Ser

5

565

570

575

Leu Ala Val Val Ser Thr Gln Leu Ile Met Pro Gly Gln Glu Ala Gly
 580 585 590

Leu Gly Gln Val Pro Leu Ile Val Gly Ile Leu Leu Val Leu Met Ala
 595 600 605

Val Val Leu Ala Ser Leu Ile Tyr Arg Arg Arg Leu Met Lys Gln Asp
 610 615 620

Phe Ser Val Pro Gln Leu Pro His Ser Ser Ser His Trp Leu Arg Leu
 625 630 635 640

Pro Arg Ile Phe Cys Ser Cys Pro Ile Gly Glu Asn Ser Pro Leu Leu
 645 650 655

Ser Gly Gln Gln Val
 660

<210> 3

<211> 2106

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (1)...(2106)

<220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: modified CEA

<400> 3

atg gag tct ccc tcg gcc cct ccc cac aga tgg tgc atc ccc tgg cag 48
 Met Glu Ser Pro Ser Ala Pro Pro His Arg Trp Cys Ile Pro Trp Gln
 1 5 10 15

agg ctc ctg ctc aca gcc tca ctt cta acc ttc tgg aac ccg ccc acc 96
 Arg Leu Leu Leu Thr Ala Ser Leu Leu Thr Phe Trp Asn Pro Pro Thr
 20 25 30

act gcc aag ctc act att gaa tcc acg ccg ttc aat gtc gca gag ggg 144
 Thr Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile Glu Ser Thr Pro Phe Asn Val Ala Glu Gly
 35 40 45

aag gag gtg ctt cta ctt gtc cac aat ctg ccc cag cat ctt ttt ggc 192
 Lys Glu Val Leu Leu Val His Asn Leu Pro Gln His Leu Phe Gly
 50 55 60

tac agc tgg tac aaa ggt gaa aga gtg gat ggc aac cgt caa att ata 240
 Tyr Ser Trp Tyr Lys Gly Glu Arg Val Asp Gly Asn Arg Gln Ile Ile
 65 70 75 80

6

gga tat gta ata gga actcaa caa gct acc cca ggg ccc gca tac agt Gly Tyr Val Ile Gly Thr Gln Gln Ala Thr Pro Gly Pro Ala Tyr Ser 85 90 95	288
ggt cga gag ata ata tac ccc aat gca tcc ctg ctg atc cag aac atc Gly Arg Glu Ile Ile Tyr Pro Asn Ala Ser Leu Leu Ile Gln Asn Ile 100 105 110	336
atc cag aat gac aca gga ttc tac acc cta cac gtc ata aag tca gat Ile Gln Asn Asp Thr Gly Phe Tyr Thr Leu His Val Ile Lys Ser Asp 115 120 125	384
ctt gtg aat gaa gaa gca act ggc cag ttc cgg gta tac ccg gag ctg Leu Val Asn Glu Glu Ala Thr Gly Gln Phe Arg Val Tyr Pro Glu Leu 130 135 140	432
ccc aag ccc tcc atc tcc agc aac aac tcc aaa ccc gtg gag gac aag Pro Lys Pro Ser Ile Ser Ser Asn Asn Ser Lys Pro Val Glu Asp Lys 145 150 155 160	480
gat gct gtg gcc ttc acc tgt gaa cct gag act cag gac gca acc tac Asp Ala Val Ala Phe Thr Cys Glu Pro Glu Thr Gln Asp Ala Thr Tyr 165 170 175	528
ctg tgg tgg gta aac aat cag agc ctc ccg gtc agt ccc agg ctg cag Leu Trp Trp Val Asn Asn Gln Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Pro Arg Leu Gln 180 185 190	576
ctg tcc aat ggc aac agg acc ctc act cta ttc aat gtc aca aga aat Leu Ser Asn Gly Asn Arg Thr Leu Thr Leu Phe Asn Val Thr Arg Asn 195 200 205	624
gac aca gca agc tac aaa tgt gaa acc cag aac cca gtg agt gcc agg Asp Thr Ala Ser Tyr Lys Cys Glu Thr Gln Asn Pro Val Ser Ala Arg 210 215 220	672
cgc agt gat tca gtc atc ctg aat gtc ctc tat ggc ccg gat gcc ccc Arg Ser Asp Ser Val Ile Leu Asn Val Leu Tyr Gly Pro Asp Ala Pro 225 230 235 240	720
acc att tcc cct cta aac aca tct tac aga tca ggg gaa aat ctg aac Thr Ile Ser Pro Leu Asn Thr Ser Tyr Arg Ser Gly Glu Asn Leu Asn 245 250 255	768
ctc tcc tgc cac gca gcc tct aac cca cct gca cag tac tct tgg ttt Leu Ser Cys His Ala Ala Ser Asn Pro Pro Ala Gln Tyr Ser Trp Phe 260 265 270	816
gtc aat ggg act ttc cag caa tcc acc caa gag ctc ttt atc ccc aac Val Asn Gly Thr Phe Gln Gln Ser Thr Gln Glu Leu Phe Ile Pro Asn 275 280 285	864
atc act gtg aat aat agt gga tcc tat acg tgc caa gcc cat aac tca Ile Thr Val Asn Asn Ser Gly Ser Tyr Thr Cys Gln Ala His Asn Ser	912

290	295	300	
gac act ggc ctc aat agg acc aca gtc acg acg atc aca gtc tat gag Asp Thr Gly Leu Asn Arg Thr Thr Val Thr Thr Ile Thr Val Tyr Glu			960
305	310	315	320
cca ccc aaa ccc ttc atc acc agc aac aac tcc aac ccc gtg gag gat Pro Pro Lys Pro Phe Ile Thr Ser Asn Asn Ser Asn Pro Val Glu Asp			1008
325	330	335	
gag gat gct gta gcc tta acc tgt gaa cct gag att cag aac aca acc Glu Asp Ala Val Ala Leu Thr Cys Glu Pro Glu Ile Gln Asn Thr Thr			1056
340	345	350	
tac ctg tgg tgg gta aat aat cag agc ctc ccg gtc agt ccc agg ctg Tyr Leu Trp Trp Val Asn Asn Gln Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Pro Arg Leu			1104
355	360	365	
cag ctg tcc aat gac aac agg acc ctc act cta ctc agt gtc aca agg Gln Leu Ser Asn Asp Asn Arg Thr Leu Thr Leu Leu Ser Val Thr Arg			1152
370	375	380	
aat gat gta gga ccc tat gag tgt gga atc cag aac gaa tta agt gtt Asn Asp Val Gly Pro Tyr Glu Cys Gly Ile Gln Asn Glu Leu Ser Val			1200
385	390	395	400
gac cac agc gac cca gtc atc ctg aat gtc ctc tat ggc cca gac gac Asp His Ser Asp Pro Val Ile Leu Asn Val Leu Tyr Gly Pro Asp Asp			1248
405	410	415	
ccc acc att tcc ccc tca tac acc tat tac cgt cca ggg gtg aac ctc Pro Thr Ile Ser Pro Ser Tyr Thr Tyr Tyr Arg Pro Gly Val Asn Leu			1296
420	425	430	
agc ctc tcc tgc cat gca gcc tct aac cca cct gca cag tat tct tgg Ser Leu Ser Cys His Ala Ala Ser Asn Pro Pro Ala Gln Tyr Ser Trp			1344
435	440	445	
ctg att gat ggg aac atc cag caa cac aca caa gag ctc ttt atc tcc Leu Ile Asp Gly Asn Ile Gln Gln His Thr Gln Glu Leu Phe Ile Ser			1392
450	455	460	
aac atc act gag aag aac agc gga ctc tat acc tgc cag gcc aat aac Asn Ile Thr Glu Lys Asn Ser Gly Leu Tyr Thr Cys Gln Ala Asn Asn			1440
465	470	475	480
tca gcc agt ggc cac agc agg act aca gtc aag aca atc aca gtc tct Ser Ala Ser Gly His Ser Arg Thr Thr Val Lys Thr Ile Thr Val Ser			1488
485	490	495	
gcg gag ctg ccc aag ccc tcc atc tcc agc aac aac tcc aaa ccc gtg Ala Glu Leu Pro Lys Pro Ser Ile Ser Ser Asn Asn Ser Lys Pro Val			1536
500	505	510	

8

gag gac aag gat gct gtg gcc ttc acc tgt gaa cct gag gct cag aac Glu Asp Lys Asp Ala Val Ala Phe Thr Cys Glu Pro Glu Ala Gln Asn	515	520	525	1584
aca acc tac ctg tgg tgg gta aat ggt cag agc ctc cca gtc agt ccc Thr Thr Tyr Leu Trp Trp Val Asn Gly Gln Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Pro	530	535	540	1632
agg ctg cag ctg tcc aat ggc aac agg acc ctc act cta ttc aat gtc Arg Leu Gln Leu Ser Asn Gly Asn Arg Thr Leu Thr Leu Phe Asn Val	545	550	555	1680
aca aga aat gac gca aga gcc tat gta tgt gga atc cag aac tca gtg Thr Arg Asn Asp Ala Arg Ala Tyr Val Cys Gly Ile Gln Asn Ser Val	565	570	575	1728
agt gca aac cgc agt gac cca gtc acc ctg gat gtc ctc tat ggg ccg Ser Ala Asn Arg Ser Asp Pro Val Thr Leu Asp Val Leu Tyr Gly Pro	580	585	590	1776
gac acc ccc atc att tcc ccc cca gac tcg tct tac ctt tcg gga gcg Asp Thr Pro Ile Ile Ser Pro Pro Asp Ser Ser Tyr Leu Ser Gly Ala	595	600	605	1824
gac ctc aac ctc tcc tgc cac tcg gcc tct aac cca tcc ccg cag tat Asp Leu Asn Leu Ser Cys His Ser Ala Ser Asn Pro Ser Pro Gln Tyr	610	615	620	1872
tct tgg cgt atc aat ggg ata ccg cag caa cac aca caa gtt ctc ttt Ser Trp Arg Ile Asn Gly Ile Pro Gln Gln His Thr Gln Val Leu Phe	625	630	635	1920
atc gcc aaa atc acg cca aat aat aac ggg acc tat gcc tgt ttt gtc Ile Ala Lys Ile Thr Pro Asn Asn Gly Thr Tyr Ala Cys Phe Val	645	650	655	1968
tct aac ttg gct act ggc cgc aat aat tcc ata gtc aag agc atc aca Ser Asn Leu Ala Thr Gly Arg Asn Asn Ser Ile Val Lys Ser Ile Thr	660	665	670	2016
gtc tct gca tct gga act tct cct ggt ctc tca gct ggg gcc act gtc Val Ser Ala Ser Gly Thr Ser Pro Gly Leu Ser Ala Gly Ala Thr Val	675	680	685	2064
ggc atc atg att gga gtg ctg gtt ggg gtt gct ctg ata tag Gly Ile Met Ile Gly Val Leu Val Gly Val Ala Leu Ile	690	695	700	2106

<210> 4
<211> 701
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 4

Met Glu Ser Pro Ser Ala Pro Pro His Arg Trp Cys Ile Pro Trp Gln
1 5 10 15

Arg Leu Leu Leu Thr Ala Ser Leu Leu Thr Phe Trp Asn Pro Pro Thr
20 25 30

Thr Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile Glu Ser Thr Pro Phe Asn Val Ala Glu Gly
35 40 45

Lys Glu Val Leu Leu Leu Val His Asn Leu Pro Gln His Leu Phe Gly
50 55 60

Tyr Ser Trp Tyr Lys Gly Glu Arg Val Asp Gly Asn Arg Gln Ile Ile
65 70 75 80

Gly Tyr Val Ile Gly Thr Gln Gln Ala Thr Pro Gly Pro Ala Tyr Ser
85 90 95

Gly Arg Glu Ile Ile Tyr Pro Asn Ala Ser Leu Leu Ile Gln Asn Ile
100 105 110

Ile Gln Asn Asp Thr Gly Phe Tyr Thr Leu His Val Ile Lys Ser Asp
115 120 125

Leu Val Asn Glu Glu Ala Thr Gly Gln Phe Arg Val Tyr Pro Glu Leu
130 135 140

Pro Lys Pro Ser Ile Ser Ser Asn Asn Ser Lys Pro Val Glu Asp Lys
145 150 155 160

Asp Ala Val Ala Phe Thr Cys Glu Pro Glu Thr Gln Asp Ala Thr Tyr
165 170 175

Leu Trp Trp Val Asn Asn Gln Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Pro Arg Leu Gln
180 185 190

Leu Ser Asn Gly Asn Arg Thr Leu Thr Leu Phe Asn Val Thr Arg Asn
195 200 205

Asp Thr Ala Ser Tyr Lys Cys Glu Thr Gln Asn Pro Val Ser Ala Arg
210 215 220

Arg Ser Asp Ser Val Ile Leu Asn Val Leu Tyr Gly Pro Asp Ala Pro
225 230 235 240

Thr Ile Ser Pro Leu Asn Thr Ser Tyr Arg Ser Gly Glu Asn Leu Asn
245 250 255

Leu Ser Cys His Ala Ala Ser Asn Pro Pro Ala Gln Tyr Ser Trp Phe
260 265 270

Val Asn Gly Thr Phe Gln Gln Ser Thr Gln Glu Leu Phe Ile Pro Asn

10

275

280

285

Ile Thr Val Asn Asn Ser Gly Ser Tyr Thr Cys Gln Ala His Asn Ser
 290 295 300

Asp Thr Gly Leu Asn Arg Thr Thr Val Thr Ile Thr Val Tyr Glu
 305 310 315 320

Pro Pro Lys Pro Phe Ile Thr Ser Asn Asn Ser Asn Pro Val Glu Asp
 325 330 335

Glu Asp Ala Val Ala Leu Thr Cys Glu Pro Glu Ile Gln Asn Thr Thr
 340 345 350

Tyr Leu Trp Trp Val Asn Asn Gln Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Pro Arg Leu
 355 360 365

Gln Leu Ser Asn Asp Asn Arg Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Val Thr Arg
 370 375 380

Asn Asp Val Gly Pro Tyr Glu Cys Gly Ile Gln Asn Glu Leu Ser Val
 385 390 395 400

Asp His Ser Asp Pro Val Ile Leu Asn Val Leu Tyr Gly Pro Asp Asp
 405 410 415

Pro Thr Ile Ser Pro Ser Tyr Thr Tyr Tyr Arg Pro Gly Val Asn Leu
 420 425 430

Ser Leu Ser Cys His Ala Ala Ser Asn Pro Pro Ala Gln Tyr Ser Trp
 435 440 445

Leu Ile Asp Gly Asn Ile Gln Gln His Thr Gln Glu Leu Phe Ile Ser
 450 455 460

Asn Ile Thr Glu Lys Asn Ser Gly Leu Tyr Thr Cys Gln Ala Asn Asn
 465 470 475 480

Ser Ala Ser Gly His Ser Arg Thr Thr Val Lys Thr Ile Thr Val Ser
 485 490 495

Ala Glu Leu Pro Lys Pro Ser Ile Ser Ser Asn Asn Ser Lys Pro Val
 500 505 510

Glu Asp Lys Asp Ala Val Ala Phe Thr Cys Glu Pro Glu Ala Gln Asn
 515 520 525

Thr Thr Tyr Leu Trp Trp Val Asn Gly Gln Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Pro
 530 535 540

Arg Leu Gln Leu Ser Asn Gly Asn Arg Thr Leu Thr Leu Phe Asn Val
 545 550 555 560

Thr Arg Asn Asp Ala Arg Ala Tyr Val Cys Gly Ile Gln Asn Ser Val

11

565

570

575

Ser Ala Asn Arg Ser Asp Pro Val Thr Leu Asp Val Leu Tyr Gly Pro
580 585 590

Asp Thr Pro Ile Ile Ser Pro Pro Asp Ser Ser Tyr Leu Ser Gly Ala
595 600 605

Asp Leu Asn Leu Ser Cys His Ser Ala Ser Asn Pro Ser Pro Gln Tyr
610 615 620

Ser Trp Arg Ile Asn Gly Ile Pro Gln Gln His Thr Gln Val Leu Phe
625 630 635 640

Ile Ala Lys Ile Thr Pro Asn Asn Gly Thr Tyr Ala Cys Phe Val
645 650 655

Ser Asn Leu Ala Thr Gly Arg Asn Asn Ser Ile Val Lys Ser Ile Thr
660 665 670

Val Ser Ala Ser Gly Thr Ser Pro Gly Leu Ser Ala Gly Ala Thr Val
675 680 685

Gly Ile Met Ile Gly Val Leu Val Gly Val Ala Leu Ile
690 695 700

<210> 5

<211> 9

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: gp 100 peptide

<400> 5

Ile Thr Asp Gln Val Pro Phe Ser Val

1 5

<210> 6

<211> 9

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: gp 100 peptide

<400> 6

Tyr Leu Glu Pro Gly Pro Val Thr Ala

1 5

<210> 7

12

<211> 8
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: gp 100 peptide

<400> 7
Ile Met Asp Gln Val Pro Phe Ser Val
1 5

<210> 8
<211> 9
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: gp 100 peptide

<400> 8
Tyr Leu Glu Pro Gly Pro Val Thr Val
1 5

<210> 9
<211> 9
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence:gp 100 peptide

<400> 9
Tyr Leu Glu Pro Gly Pro Val Thr Ala
1 5

<210> 10
<211> 9
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: CEA peptide

<400> 10
Tyr Leu Ser Gly Ala Asn Leu Asn Leu
1 5

13

<210> 11
<211> 9
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: CEA peptide

<400> 11
Tyr Leu Ser Gly Ala Asp Leu Asn Leu
1 5